

# B.A.R.

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1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

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## Gay Choruses in Financial Shambles

### Castro Office to be Vacated; Salaries to be Stopped

by Allen White

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus and their corporate umbrella, Golden Gate Performing Arts, are teetering on the brink of bankruptcy. Last week board members were told that on June 30 they had \$27,227.86 in outstanding bills with only \$642.40 in the bank. There are also two 4-year notes which total \$169,000.00.

Brian Finnegan, Chief Financial Officer of Golden Gate Performing Arts, told the *Bay Area Reporter* "there is a threat of bankruptcy." GGPA President Steven Muchnick also acknowledged that "bankruptcy may be a possibility."

Finnegan presented the board a statement detailing an \$11,952 loss at the Fifth Anniversary Gay Musical Celebration, June 24 at the Warfield Theatre. The cost for presenting the two concerts was a whopping \$21,160. Less than 1,000 people attended and the ticket sale was \$9,208. Part of the high cost for the evening is the built-in Warfield Theatre operating costs. Stagehands charged \$5,252 with an ushers, ticket takers, and sellers expense of over \$1,000.

The June 24 concert may be the straw that breaks the financial back of Golden Gate Performing Arts. For the last two

years the organization has been struggling with a debt that almost hit a quarter of a million dollars as the result of a 1981 National Tour. The group has continually been accused of gross financial mismanagement. Just prior to the chorus' departure in May 1981, then GGPA President Nello Carlini resigned from his position. He refused to sign promissory notes, the effects of which would mortgage several homes.

Since the tour and right through last week's board meeting, there has been a reluctance by many in the nonprofit corporation to acknowledge the

financial crisis. Bucking the company line, chorus member Bob Shedd delivered an emotional statement to the GGPA board. He said he wished the group had "the balls to bite the bullet two years ago." He told the board that they had to "start being realistic" and "stop wasting money." He proposed that a fund be set up to retire the long-term debt, that comingling of funds within the corporation be stopped, that planning be realistic, that the corporation move from its Castro Street office space and that salaries be cut.

Shedd's remarks came following an item review of the \$27,227.46 which is now due.

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The Gay Men's Chorus on one of its happier days promoting one of its concerts. This week the red ink. (Photo: Rink)

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## 'Wall Street Journal' Bounces Atlas Ad

Atlas Savings and Loan executives were in a mild state of shock this week after they learned that their help wanted ad had been rejected by the *Wall Street Journal*.

The classified ad read: "Atlas Savings & Loan, the World's first financial institution organized by Lesbian/Gay persons to serve the Lesbian/Gay community, is conducting a nation-wide search for a qualified person to fill the position of Chief Executive Officer. Interested persons should send their resume to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 14457, San Francisco, CA 94114."

In a letter dated June 17, Virginia Behrens, Classified Advertising Manager, wrote to Atlas, "Your proposed advertising copy was submitted to the New York Committee for acceptability and was declined for publication."

When a regional office has questions concerning the acceptability of an ad, they refer the copy to the national manager in New York City. They are never given a reason why an ad is accepted or rejected.

John Schmidt, chairman of the Atlas Board of Directors, said he could scarcely believe the rejection. He said, "I was just shocked by their lack of enlightenment in this day and age." He said that certain board members concluding the rejection was in bias against Atlas wanted the board to take legal action against the national daily.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Examiner* found no trouble with the ad and ran it in their Sunday, June 19, Job Opportunities section.

The *Journal's* policy is that no ad is allowed publication which in any way smacks of discrimination (or what they term reverse discrimination). They will not run ads specifying only a man or only a woman or for a "Black camp counselor" or "Jewish cook." Neither will they run a

(Continued on page 10)

## Holley Gets Murder 1

### Life Without Parole is Jury's Vote

by Paul Lorch

Friday evening, July 1, the eight male and four female jury in the Superior Court of Judge Lucy McCabe convicted Dana Holley, 21, guilty of first degree murder of William Sink, 51. After two days of deliberating they returned at 5:45 p.m. with their verdict.

On July 24, 1981, Holley picked up Sink, a Wells Fargo vice president, in the Castro. Sink had left the Twin Peaks bar around 12:30 a.m. and was waiting for a bus. Holley robbed and repeatedly stabbed Sink, first with a letter opener then with a pair of scissors. He also beat his victim savagely; a post mortem examination revealed a broken neck and jaw and Sink's skull fractured in two places.

From the very first the vote was 11 to 1 for conviction. Two segments of Holley's taped testi-

mony were replayed for the jury. One segment where Holley boasts of "trolling Polk Street for queers" and beating them savagely convinced the holdout that the killer was no innocent.

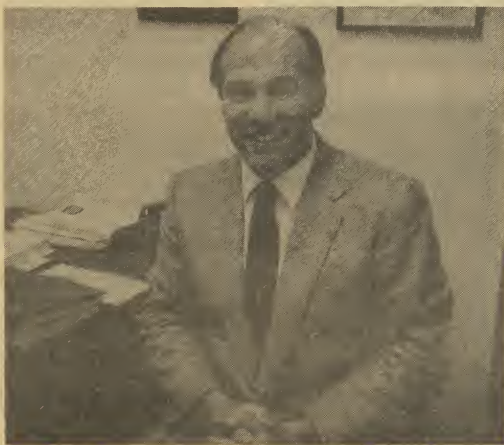
Assistant District Attorney Paul Cummins said that Holley was convicted on three counts: first degree murder, robbery, and burglary. In addition, two special circumstances were found to be true: that the murder was committed in the perpetration of a robbery and also in the perpe-

tration of a burglary. The difference between the two is that the jury concluded that Holley had the intention to steal from Sink before he got to his apartment; the second is that he actually stole from Sink's person and premises.

The two special circumstances dictate that Holley will be sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole. In short, he will never get out of prison. Cummins expects the case to be appealed but suspects the conviction will survive the appellate process.

The sentencing will take place in several weeks. Also available will be the court stenographer's transcripts of the *voire dire* process which took place in Judge McCabe's chambers. During this phase of the trial when prospective jurors are asked some routine questions, the Public Defender allegedly probed each juror about their knowledge and connection with the Gay community and eventually their sexual orientation. The Prosecution subsequently charged that the Public Defender was systematically excluding Gays from the jury.

Cummins, who by all accounts presented a masterful case for the people, summed up his feelings on the victory in the three-week long case, "It was the least we could do for Mr. Sink."



Assistant District Attorney Paul Cummins savored his victory for the prosecution in the murder case of Dana Holley. (Photo: Rink)



# No Clues in Brutal Murder of Gay Man

## SFPD Looks for Witnesses or Information

by Allen White

In the hours after midnight on Monday, June 13, James West was repeatedly stabbed and murdered at his home on Bush Street. Sunday afternoon the 28-year old man had gone to drink at the Endup. Later that night he and friends went to a Joni Mitchell concert at the Concord Pavilion.

When he returned home he told his friend, Jim Williamson, that he was horny and wanted to go out "prowling." Williamson, who had known West for six years, is now trying to piece together strands of knowledge to help police in their search for the killer.

James West lived in a studio apartment near Bush and Hyde Streets. Working the graveyard shift at Yellow Cab gave him many cab driver friends. In his free time he liked to paint and had developed a large number of straight, as well as Gay friends.

He was also attracted to Gay Latino men. Esta Noche, the popular Gay Latino bar, was one of his favorite spots. He also spent time at other Latino bars in the Mission and enjoyed such places as Buzzby's on Polk Street.

Inspector Jim Crowley of the Police-Homicide Division says that they are trying to locate anyone who saw James West the night he was murdered. They do know he had a motorcycle which he parked down the street from his home. He was seen leaving his apartment a few minutes after midnight on Sunday night, June 12.

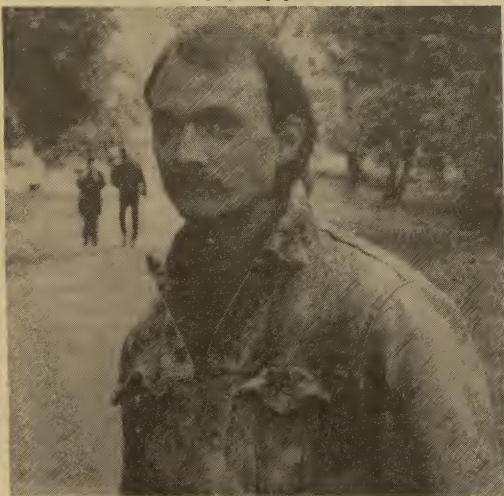
The police know that between midnight and 4:30 in the morning West was killed. He was brutally stabbed in what the police inspector described as "a gory



James West, 28, savagely murdered and mutilated in his Bush Street studio.

death." Police are reluctant to disclose other information about the bloody murder.

Periodically, the police have turned to the Gay community for help when someone is killed. This time the police need the assistance of any person who might have seen James West between midnight and 3:30 a.m. Monday, June 13. Calls should be directed to Inspector Jim Clark or Inspector Herman Clark of the San Francisco Police Department at 553-1145. Those wishing to remain anonymous may call the editor of this paper at 861-5019.



Murder victim James West — who last saw this man the night of June 12?

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# Supervisors Urge That Dan White Not Be Released

## Silver, Kopp Debate Governor's Powers

by Michael Benzry

The Board of Supervisors this week passed a resolution urging that one of their former colleagues be kept in jail because he murdered another of their colleagues and their mayor. Supervisor Silver, who wrote the resolution, said, "We feel and we know that Dan White got away with murder."

The resolution urges the Governor of California to use such powers as he may have in Penal Code Section 3062, or in any other section of California law, to revoke the parole of Dan White and urges the United States Attorney of Northern California, Joseph Russoniello, to recommend to the Attorney General of the United States that Dan White be prosecuted under Title 18, Section 245, for the civil rights violations of George Moscone and Harvey B. Milk.

The debate on the resolution was between Supervisors Silver and Quentin Kopp, with comments by Supervisor Harry Britt. Silver and Kopp were on the board when the murders were committed; Britt was appointed to take the place of Harvey Milk.

As originally written, the resolution made the assumption that Section 3062 gave the governor the power to revoke the parole of White. Governor Deukmejian used this section to revoke the parole of William Faim earlier this year.

Supervisor Kopp proposed to amend the whole resolution, and to delete any reference to revoking White's parole. The board had received a letter from the Attorney General of California, John Van de Kamp, which stated the governor has no such power. But trying White under the Civil Rights Act was feasible and legal. "I spent some time looking at it," Kopp had said earlier. He thought there would be no double jeopardy involved. John Eshelman Wahl, the attorney for the estate of Harvey Milk, has already suggested the United States Attorney of Northern California investigate and make such a recommendation to the Attorney General of the United States.

Silver felt that the opinion of the California Attorney General was tentative and subject to further research. The governor would have to study that recommendation and interpret the state statutes. "I do not think it is in our best interest to fail to go forward to press the governor to make an interpretation of that language that would fit with our view of what ought to be done," said Silver. She would be willing to amend her resolution to say if the governor has those powers, but "to delete all references to state powers would be a significant disservice to the people whom we represent."

Silver said that Kopp's amendment of the whole "does call on the Attorney General to ask for prosecution [of White] under Title 18 of the Federal Code for violation of civil rights, to wit, murder. I think he [Dan White] ought to be prosecuted under Federal law to the full extent even though the prosecution for the violation of civil rights to the ordinary person sounds like a silly way to get around the fact that he got away with murder in the state courts. The members of the board and the people of San Francisco know something that we want to tell to the Attorney General and to the governor, namely that we have been

wronged, that we have been victimized, and that a murderer has gotten away without paying an adequate price. That is the language that is deleted by Supervisor Kopp's resolution."



Supervisor Carol Ruth Silver this week led the move to keep murderer Dan White in custody. She is seen here in the '83 Parade with Gay aide Arthur Morris. (Photo: Rink)

Kopp replied, "It is just plain wrong to say there is a tentative opinion of the Attorney General." The letter from the Attorney General states, "the law provides that an inmate serving a determinate term shall be released on parole on expiration of his term of imprisonment." Because of so much attention to the Faim case, the letter states specifically that the White case is not analogous to it. White's "parole date will occur as a matter of law, and not as the result of a discriminate decision as in the case of Mr. Faim." Faim had an indeterminate sentence.

Supervisor Harry Britt spoke. "The purpose of Supervisor Kopp's amendment is to focus the policy statement of the board with the law enforcement officer who has the power to take further action, naming the Attorney General of the United States acting through the Attorney of the Northern District of California. I think there is a unanimous vote on this board to do everything in

our power to keep Dan White in jail for a very long time. We are trying to rectify an injustice; a murderer was allowed to go free. What we mean to say to our governor is do anything in your power to keep Dan White in jail."

Supervisor Silver again spoke stating that if they adopted Supervisor Kopp's amendment of the whole, several critical phrases would be removed. They included "whereas the public interest in justice would be denied in allowing this assassin to go free" and "whereas widespread

public opposition to Dan White's parole is based upon the reasonable concern that he poses a threat to public safety and cannot at this time be safely assimilated into public society." Silver agreed to reword her resolution, asking the governor to use any power he may have to revoke Dan White's parole. Upon this Kopp withdrew his amendment, the board unanimously adopted the Silver amendments, and by the same unanimous call the resolution was adopted.

Afterwards, Supervisor Britt commented to the *Bay Area Reporter*, "It's very frustrating to try to do something [that we know to be right] and to have legal obstacles put in our way." He felt the federal recourse had more chance for success. The Northern California Federal Attorney, Joseph Russoniello, was the man to contact to urge a recommendation to the Attorney General of the United States.

## AIDS Dropping in NYC

The number of new cases of AIDS in the New York City area has begun to level off, the city's health commissioner reported recently.

Commissioner David Sencer told the Associated Press that the number of new AIDS cases in New York for the first five months of 1983 is far below health officials' predictions.

"We're just not seeing this phenomenal spurt that some people had predicted," Sencer, a former director of the National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, told AP. He attributed this apparent slowdown to changing lifestyles among New York's Gay men.

While AIDS has grabbed nationwide public attention

since April, it has been "Topic A" in New York's Gay community for more than 18 months — the average incubation period for the disease to develop symptoms.

Sencer reported the number of new AIDS cases in New York at 293 from January through May, well below predictions of up to 400 new cases in the same period.

Previously, AIDS cases had been doubling every six months, but Sencer reported the number of new AIDS cases remaining constant in the New York area at around 60 cases a month — raising the possibility that the spread of the disease, which breaks down the body's immune system, will slow down nationwide in the next year to 18 months.



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# Church Axes Gay Task Force

## Clergy Punish for Unauthorized Press Conference

by Allen White

Catholic Archbishop John Quinn's Commission on Social Justice has eliminated the Task Force on Gay/Lesbian Issues for speaking out against the church. The move was made last Thursday in response to a press conference where members of the Task Force returned the Archbishop's plan on homosexuality as "theologically and pastorally inadequate and, therefore, unacceptable."

The action of the Commission on Social Justice was made public in a widely distributed statement issued jointly by Commission Chairperson Msgr. Peter Armstrong and its Executive Director, Thomas Ambrogio (an employee of the archdiocese).

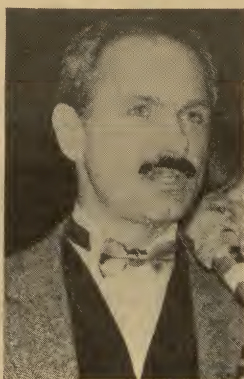
Madeline Ritchie, a member of the Task Force and also a spokesperson for Catholics for Human Dignity, said that members of the now-defunct group would be organizing as an independent group free from Archdiocese control. A meeting was held last Tuesday night for Task Force members to frame their new organization.

Executive Director Ambrogio confirmed that the liquidation of the Task Force was carried out

with the full knowledge of Archbishop John Quinn. The procedure used was to individually poll all Social Justice Commissioners by telephone. Ambrogio said all commissioners voted to dissolve the Task Force. It was a speedy reaction against Task Force Chair Kevin Gordon and others who spoke out against the Archdiocese in the June 28 press conference which gained considerable press attention.

Commenting on the speed of the move, Madeline Ritchie said, "You wonder where their hearts and minds have been." "They disbanded the Task Force in two days," she continued, "yet in ten months the Archdiocese still has yet to implement even one of the Task Force report's 54 recommendations." Ritchie further stated, "Perhaps they didn't want to hear what the Lesbian and Gay community had to say."

In dissolving the Task Force on Lesbian/Gay Issues, the Commission on Social Justice stated they fully intend to stand by their Archbishop and "be of whatever help it can in implementing as creatively as possible the Pastoral Plan." Gay Catholics pointed out that by taking this position, they are excluding active input from the Gay com-



Gay Task Force Chair Kevin Gordon this week lost both his chair and his task force. (Photo: Rink)



Myles Riley, who serves as archdiocesan flack as seen on recent TV "personal opinion" segment. (Photo: Rink)

munity in the determination of their role in the Catholic Church.

Dr. Ambrogio was critical of the Gay Catholics for denouncing their church. He said it was a bad political move. Madeline Ritchie responded, "The bad politics may be those of the Archdiocese." She said, "More and more Catholics are saying, 'We want a share.'"

The Commission on Social Justice concluded its statement by saying, "The commission will continue to be deeply concerned about justice issues within the Gay and Lesbian community, but new forms of expressing that concern will have to be developed." Ambrogio acknowledged that he and others in the Catholic Archdiocese were caught off guard by the action of the Gay community. Ambrogio said he did not know what action might be taken to develop the church's new form for expressing concern.

The Task Force was established by the Commission on Social Justice of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco in May 1981. The membership included fourteen Gay and straight men and women. In September 1982, the group issued its report, "Homosexuality and Social Justice." The document was to be a working document which would encourage a new process of dialogue. The 150-page report contained 54 recommendations, several highly critical of the Roman Catholic Church.

In December 1982, Archbishop John Quinn appointed Msgr. Peter Armstrong as chairperson of the Commission. In January, Armstrong failed in an attempt to disband the Task Force.

Gay Catholics are reportedly concerned that there will be further retaliation from the Archdiocese. The action of representatives of Dignity, the Task Force, Catholics for Human Dignity, and the Coalition for Human Rights was a giant slap in the face of the San Francisco Archdiocese.

June 28 was purposefully set as the date to return the Pastoral Plan to the Archbishop. On the same date in 1969 a similar revolt took place at the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street in New York.



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## Alice Reports

A panel discussion on sexism in the Gay community will be featured at the general meeting of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club on July 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Election of the club's vice president and consideration of bylaws changes are also scheduled. Vying for the VP position are two B.A.R. contributors, Diane Christensen and Margaret Frost.

Alice meetings are held at Swedish-American Hall, 2174 Market Street.





# BWMT Makes Major Input in '83 Gay Freedom Week

by Dion B. Sanders

"Gay, straight, black and white! Same struggle, same fight!" members of Bay Area chapters of Black and White Men Together chanted Sunday as they marched up Market Street in the annual Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade.

For BWMT, the Parade — and a third-anniversary party later in the day — marked the end of two of the busiest months in the interracial Gay club's history.

As members of BWMT chapters from San Francisco, the East Bay, San Jose and one representative from San Diego were greeted with loud cheers from the estimated 200,000 onlookers, they were joined by two black/white Lesbian couples. One BWMT member, however, reported hearing at least

one racial epithet — "Niggers and Honkies together — Yuch!" — from the sidelines.

BWMT made headlines last February when it released a report that showed a widespread pattern of race discrimination in employment in the city's Gay bars.

An outgrowth of that report

was the formation last May of a task force to investigate and combat such discrimination in Gay-owned and patronized businesses.

Also in May, BWMT-SF was one of four Third World Lesbian/Gay groups that co-sponsored the "Hot Colors" dance at the Endup to benefit the Outreach committee of the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee.

The dance grossed more than \$1,700 — \$500 more than the Parade Committee had expected.

During the Memorial Day weekend, BWMT chapters from throughout the Pacific Coast region gathered in San Diego for a mini-convention — the West Coast Regional Network — to hear progress reports from the International Association of BWMT, and to prepare for the upcoming national convention at Columbus, Ohio in August.

Founded by Mike Smith in 1980, BWMT today has more than 30 chapters in the U.S., and at least one in Canada — Toronto.

In preparation for the national convention, BWMT-SF has held a series of fundraisers in June, including a garage sale in the Castro on June 11, a beer bust at the Eagle Creek Saloon on June 19, and most recently, the anniversary "Ebony and Ivory" party at the Club 181 on Sunday — which also raised funds for the Deaf Community Relay, most of whose clients are Gay.

Not to be outdone, the East Bay chapter will host the next West Coast Regional Network in Oakland during the Labor Day weekend.

could be named beneficiaries in a life insurance policy were parties with an "insurable interest." The phrase meant only blood relatives. The principle — after many successful challenges in court — has long since been abandoned. Anyone can name anyone they elect as a life insurance beneficiary.

The seven-member Retirement Board which determines policy for city employees is composed of three reps elected by employees and three reps appointed by the mayor (the criteria for appointees is expertise in the field of health, banking, or retirement plans). Supervisor Nelder sits on the board ex-officio.

Heretofore, the Retirement Board had been determining beneficiary claims on a case by case basis. Murphy said they "had no standard to judge the various situations that came up." The board's staffers recommended that the naming of a beneficiary be left in the hands of the individual member.

The Retirement Board gave its okay and Murphy had the City Attorney draft three amendments to the code. (Retirement regulations in the City Charter can only be changed by a vote of the electorate.) Supervisor Nelder sponsored the change and introduced it to the Board of Supervisors. Murphy said "there was no significant discussion at any point."

"All it does," says Murphy, "is to make our retirement plan up-to-date — in conformity with other insurance plans."

Mayoral senior aide Peter Nardoza was aware of the change because it was his responsibility to brief the mayor on the change. He stated flatly, "The change had nothing whatsoever to do with Britt's domestic partners."

Said one City Hall insider who asked not to be named, "It seems Supervisor Britt decided to make an end run with this one. It wasn't his or anybody's ball, so I guess it was up for grabs."

According to Murphy, the change was a mere adjustment of the regulations — in a way bringing the city retirement procedures in line with late 20th century insurance practices. The item had nothing to do with domestic partners.

At one time it was general practice in the insurance industry that the only people who



The BWMT at a recent protest — each month making a larger presence.

## Supes Alter City Retirement Plan

### Britt Takes Credit/Others Give Different Version

by Paul Lorch

A press release from Supervisor Harry Britt's office threw City Hall staffers into a quandary last week and it took several hours for them to dig themselves out of a hole.

A release dated June 8 announced "Board Approves Benefits for Lovers of City Employees." The release prepared by Britt aide Dana Van Gorder went on to report that the Board approved a change in its rules for participation in the city's retirement system. The change made it "possible for an employee to designate any person — including a lover, for death and retirement benefits."

The two-page announcement gave the impression that Supervisor Britt was instrumental in bringing about the change. More than that — he was now giving it his ringing endorsement. He called the change "an important breakthrough for Lesbian and Gay city employees, and a major precedent for the idea of domestic partnership."

The motion was introduced by Board President Wendy Nelder; it was passed unanimously — and while not mentioned in the press release — subsequently signed into law by Mayor Feinstein.

A call of inquiry to three supervisors' offices (including Wendy Nelder's) produced long pauses on the other end of the line. None had received (as was once the custom) copies of the Britt office press release. Three aides in turn were vague and evasive . . . they had nothing at their fingertips. Supervisor Nelder's aide Pam promised to get back to the paper the next day

with concrete information. Supervisor Hongisto's aide Dennis Collins suggested the paper go right to the head of the Retirement Board, Claire Murphy. Supervisor Renne's aide Allan Johnson put the call through to the supervisor herself.

Supervisor Renne remembered the item had come to the board some six weeks before. It was a minor alteration made at the behest of the retirement board. She said she voted for it because it "seemed eminently fair." It attracted little discussion and was dispatched without delay.

The first call to the Retirement Board produced equal minimal information. A staffer admitted he had heard nothing about it, but promised a return call from Claire Murphy, head of the city's retirement system.

Murphy's call back was a full explanation of the matter — although she admitted she had phoned Britt's office to learn what his press release said. She did not comment on his action.

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VOL. XIII NO. 27 JULY 7, 1983

NEXT ISSUE OUT: JULY 14

NEXT DEADLINE: JULY 8

## VIEWPOINT

### The Price of Bad News

In the last four months the Gay community nation-wide has garnered massive publicity on the AIDS issue. Prior to March of this year the problem was that it was not only hard to convince others of the emergency but ourselves as well. The apprehension was that once the public knew the depth and the scope of the emergency, there would be panic.

This panic was never defined nor detailed. It remained a vague yet weighty apprehension. As we suggested months ago, we are miles past blowing that myth out of the water, but the shock waves continue to be felt.

The Larry Kramer article "1,112 and Counting" which appeared in the *New York Native* in mid March and almost simultaneously in these pages is now universally regarded as the benchmark in a shift in attitude on the issue. Some communities like New York City were ready for it; some like San Francisco were not. But with that jolt the founts of publicity and news coverage — like Hoover Dam in recent day — began to run over the rim in an unprecedented cascade.

The "SOS" has ranged far and wide and reached the ears at the top of our society. Secretary of Health Margaret Heckler seems genuinely concerned and is marshalling her troops and resources to combat the emergency. Whether the White House is doing everything some of us think needs to be done remains to be seen. Let us keep in mind, however, that as a principle of party affiliation, some of us will never be satisfied.

We have, all the same, convinced the nation that the *nation* — as a whole, not just the Gay community — faces a national health emergency.

With the landslide of publicity, media coverage, and mobilization that has followed the shift has come a proportionate degree of spookery, opportunism, and confusion. AIDS, like any other catalyst in life, will make some people better and some people worse. In an open and free society, one of the drawbacks is that the common man retains the right to be ignorant, misinformed, and malevolent. Let us not forget that the Archie Bunkers are a peculiarly American hybrid. If there's no room for a Solzenitsin or a Bertholt Brecht in a totalitarian society, there's equally no room for an Archie Bunker.

It is to be expected that a Jerry Falwell will take advantage of the distress to whip up fury against homosexuals and funds for his treasury. For his money drives, we are big box office and a sure money-getter. He will beat on Gays as long as it brings in the contributions. When we drop on Falwell's best-seller charts, we will be similarly dropped from his money-making lists.

Hence, while the misnews is distressing, we can expect it to get worse. Calamity in human affairs always seems to need a target to collect the communal vengeance. Virulent disease has a way and a long history of being blamed on some other, alien tribe. And while the bad news and its twin, the mangling of misinformation into antic behavior, get worse, we should not be deterred from the other businesses at hand, from getting on with our lives.

While AIDS is *the* story of the year and today (as we wanted it) Public Health Enemy Number One — there remain other things in our lives that demand our energies.

The AIDS emergency is also a vehicle and it will remain one. Even in our own ranks it is a tube through which will squeeze the inkiest of people.

We should care very much what magazines are marketing but *not* that much that we lacerate our flesh with their slings and arrows. Any journalist worth their salt can get a fool to make an asinine quote.

The greatest danger is that the AIDS dilemma (in all its ramifications) is fertile ground for our greatest vice. Homosexism: a fear and loathing of our own kind that would destroy the sandcastles we have so lately built.

Paul Lorch

## LETTERS

### Labor Solidarity



Castro Street workers picket Louisa's Restaurant. (Photo: Rink)

★ Well, I read that Unionism has finally caught on at gay or straight businesses in the Castro and other neighboring areas. Gays are no different than straights when it comes to money, period. I've worked for both and it seems the richer the business owner the cheaper he or she is with their employees. We thought the sweat shops went out at the turn of the century — bullshit!

It's gratifying to see a hell of a lot of other concerned people boycotting the New York City Deli and Louisa's Restaurant. I'm not saying all employers are cheap either, but money and power go hand in hand in this society, as we all know by experience.

It's also distressing to learn the Eureka Valley Merchants Association is giving Louisa their support. I used to date a gay business owner in the Castro and the way he talked about his employees was degrading. "They only work for a paycheck; they don't care about my business!" he'd say. I said, "Why don't you give them commissions on sales items or a percentage of your profits?" Do I have to tell you his response? The solidarity of the workers in the two labor disputes is encouraging to others and I and many others applaud their actions. Good luck, and God bless you all.

Dennis Germane  
San Francisco

### Lousy Parade

★ The City That Knows How certainly showed that it is just as fallible as the rest of the world this past Sunday. The parade that was supposed to honor our dead and dying was disorganized, tacky, and openly commercial.

The program cover is an appalling shame considering the enormous artistic talent within our community. Many people, myself included, are furious at having missed two-thirds of the parade after monitors failed to squelch the wild rumor that the parade was over during one of the interminable delays.

If Sunday's spectacle is the way we honor our dead, our ancestors, from Alexander and Hephastion on down, must be doing flips in their graves. If the Gay community truly desires to evolve as a distinct civilization, it will have to reject this society's reliance on mediocrity, incompetence, and embrace a leader, or group of leaders, and follow that lead.

The East Bay parade, though in its infancy, holds a definite hope for the future. Perhaps the SF parade has gotten out of hand in its hugeness.

Brion Cyle  
Oakland, CA

### Smokey Signals

★ I am responding in regard to your *B.A.R.* edition of June 23, 1983, entitled "83 Parade Will Spotlight

Minorities," specifically the statements of Mr. Randy Burns, Vice President of Gay American Indians.

First of all, I am not a member of the GAI. My rebuttal of Mr. Burns' statements are if they come directly from him or are these the feelings of all the members of his organization?

In his remarks involving the Gay American Indians, I do not want the gay community to feel all Gays who happen to be American Indians fall into the categories Mr. Burns stated; i.e. invisibility, breakdown stereotypes, being carded at a bar or a bathroom, ID checks, reservation cards (Oklahoma Indians do not live on reservations), or treated tackily.

I have lived in San Francisco from 1967 and never have been confronted with any of the above allegations. I feel any repercussions an individual receives in our community derives from their integrity rather than their race.

Oscar Tabbone Poolaw  
Kiowa Tribe (Oklahoma)  
San Francisco

### Pushing Parade Crowd

★ Well, we seem to have survived yet another Lesbian/Gay Pride Week (and it wasn't easy, was it, kids?) culminating in our grand parade. It could have been even grander if more of us had followed a few simple rules of safety and courtesy along the parade route.

One such rule is so simple even an adult should be able to understand it: IF YOU AREN'T IN THE PARADE, STAY ON THE SIDEWALK. Sounds easy enough, doesn't it? And it certainly makes good sense. And yet, there "THEY" were again, the Front Line of Assheldom, insinuating themselves (I'd deep where I happened to be) yards out in front of the rope barrier they should have been behind, endangering their own safety and interfering with the safe and orderly progression of the parade. Not to mention blocking the view of those folks who were standing where they belonged.

Who are these front-liners, you ask? Oh, you recognize them. They're the ones who trample your body and mine to board a Muni conveyance as if it was the last escape rocket off Earth before nova. The very same who go spinning, Astair & Rogers-like, cutting a bloody swath across a crowded dance floor. Yes, we know them only too well.

Some of us are old enough to remember a time when common courtesy was truly common, and regard for one's fellow humans was the rule, not the exception. It was just appalling to watch these people blatantly ignore the repeated requests of the beleaguered monitors to move back onto the sidewalks. Apparently they have learned, as school children have in recent years, that it is easy to defy authority when the symbols of authority are restricted from backing up the rules with physical action, as are the monitors. So if you can do it and get away with it, why not, right? WRONG! The Boys and Girls in Blue are not thus restricted, and if you'll recall, one of the basic ideas behind our self-monitoring of our Gay/Lesbian events was and is to keep those of us who get a little too gaily/lesbianly abandoned from getting bashed by San Francisco's Finest. So give our monitors an even break. They're on our side.

Mom  
San Francisco

### Book Booster

★ I hope *B.A.R.* is getting enough positive reader response from publication of Ron Bluestein's (and more recently, Aaron Shurin's) book reviews to continue paying attention to the process of reading. As one addicted to *B.A.R.*, it is more than gratifying to read reviews in your paper which express ideas as well as opinions.

Furthermore, if you aren't getting expressed positive responses, I hope yours is, What the hell; lead a little.

John D. Dolan  
San Francisco

# B.A.R.

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# LETTERS

## Black On White

★ Re: "Viewpoint" on Allen White — June 9 issue.  
I have never in my life seen anybody trashed so politely.

Chris Knepper  
San Francisco

## Freitas & Grodin's

★ I recently saw the Grodin's new poster man, Joe Freitas, Jr. How especially inappropriate for Grodin's to have chosen this man to represent their establishment during Gay Freedom Week or was it a coincidence? Being a Grodin's shopper for years has now exposed me as to the company's choice in role models. I feel that supporting Grodin's is like supporting Dan White's release.

C. Rodger Morales  
San Francisco

## Afterthought

★ When will our Honorable Mayor Feinstein "condescend" to appear at the head of our Gay Freedom Day Parade? If she considers the affair too frivolous, perhaps she might just as frivolously be rejected at the voting booths in November. Someone in the parade should carry a banner stating, Di Didn't Show Today, We Won't In November.

Of course, so long as the Alice B and Milk clubs keep kissing her behind, she can flaunt her power, and still ignore a third of the voting population of this fair city.

This letter is too late to affect the 1983 Parade, but it should serve as an afterthought.

Gene Polish  
San Francisco

## Where Have The Cooks Gone?

★ First of all I'd like to compliment you on the paper and the fine job you and your staff are doing.

But for the last few weeks I have greatly missed that delicious cooking column by Peter Hirsch and John Prisco. I am myself by no means a great cook and really appreciated how easily the recipes were written. I do hope you reinstate this column for cooks like myself.

Craig Boye  
San Francisco

## Indiana Pal

★ Gay Black Male, age 29, weight 160, height 5'8", hair black, eyes hazel brown;

I am a very, very lonely "Hot Boy" who needs a friend to love and be loved by.

I'm in prison now, but will be out just as soon as they release me, if you are interested in me please write?

Mr. Larry Allen Gaines #20117  
Indiana Department of Correction  
P.O. Box 473  
Westville, Indiana 46391

## Wisconsin Pal

★ I would very much appreciate your assistance, in this my search for the person or persons who might be willing to become a pen friend or friends of mine.

I ask if it is possible for me to receive your paper. If so would you please forward it to me at your earliest convenience.

Also would you please consider placing in your classified sections the following:

I am single and quite interested in corresponding with person's who might desire the same form of communicating. I'm 35 years old. Six feet tall and weigh 175 pounds.

I'll answer all who respond to this request.

Ernest French  
Waupun, Wisconsin  
53963-0351

## Quentinite Wants Lesbian pal

★ I am currently confined to the California State Prison at San Quentin, in Marin County. I am a straight male, and I'm hoping for your assistance in acquiring a pen pal.

What may make this request unusual is that I would like to write to a Gay woman.

My reasons are simple and straight forward. I am not gay and would not like to be put in a position to lead a Gay male on. Too many prison inmates who get involved with Gay males, use them for financial gain. By writing to a Gay woman — we both would know where we stand. I also believe that our correspondence will be honest and informative.

I am submitting the following for your information.

Name: Jerry Gaglione, w/male, 42, 5'9", 170 lbs., Ed: BA Mgt from Sonoma State, Parole Date: 1992, Parole Point: 60 mile radius of S.F. Religious preference: Polytheist in the process of converting to Judaism. Home state: Massachusetts. Hobbies: Cooking, Golf, Flying. Marital Status: Divorced "81".

I would like to write to a Gay woman who is Oriental or Jewish. Yet this is not a hard request, just a preference. I put no restrictions concerning age, race, nor religion.

Jerry Gaglione  
Tamal, Ca

## Dying to Love

★ The expulsion of men known to have AIDS from the baths can only create a false sense of security. For each member of our family/community who has been diagnosed, there are probably many who have the disease and don't know it. Can we throw them out too?

The implication that men with AIDS cannot behave themselves at the baths is sinister. Certainly AIDS does not attack the integrity of its host. The presence of someone with AIDS at the baths does not mean that that person is indulging in life-threatening perversity. Or do we still believe that the people who get it are somehow less than human — only neurotic, sex-addicted, drug-dependent, suicidal freaks are at risk, right? If we believe that AIDS patients are a threat to us, it can only be because we believe that we are a threat to ourselves, that we believe ourselves to be incapable of acting with aware purpose and appropriate restraint.

My modest proposal is this: to make bathhouse admission free to anyone who has AIDS, to post a notice to this effect over the entrance to the club, and to provide information on safe sex practices to all comers. The awareness of the possibility of contracting AIDS at the baths would be increased many times over, resulting in conscious, imaginative, safe sexual activity. Also, the consideration that our current trick might be dying could be an excuse for us to manifest, ourselves, some of the tenderness and care that we came to San Francisco to find and celebrate.

We are dying to love each other. And love, I think, is one way through this. We can — and should — make it together.

Den Kelley  
San Francisco

## Unhappy with Perkins

★ The fact that, insofar as I am aware, I have never met or encountered Steve Perkins constitutes one of the supreme blessings of my life, for which I intend to thank God on each and every one of my remaining days.

I would like, however, publicly to acknowledge my indebtedness to him for having finally answered for me an oft-asked question: "Are all gay men innately endowed with a special sensitivity to the misfortunes of others?" Assuming (with vast distaste) that Mr. Perkins is gay, that question would perforce be answered with a resounding "NO!" His letter, "Dying for Publicity," is the crudest, most insensitive, most reprehensible bit of scurrilousness I have ever seen in print. It ranks right down there with the opinion of Falwell's lieutenant that "all faggots should be stoned" (in the biblical sense) "to death," and that imbecile Billy Graham's contention (doubtless received directly from the lips of God) that "AIDS is God's way of punishing sinners."

One is accustomed to that sort of awesomely un-Christian, blasphemous bullshit from the likes of those two. But from one of "our own?"

I am appalled.

C. W. Morrison, M.D.  
San Francisco

## Texas Pal

★ I would like to place a pen pal ad in the Bay Area Reporter. I would like to have out of state subscription rates also. I am going to submit a pen pal request with this letter.

Architect, incarcerated in the Texas Department of Corrections, would like younger person around 19 to 23 to correspond with. I am not looking for support financially, but rather an honest person to write to and share this time with. Write to: Lester Boutwell 293294, Wynne Unit B-1-4-6, Huntsville, Texas 77340.

Lester Boutwell  
Huntsville, TX

## Work on Senators

★ If you live in one of these cities: Hayward, Fremont, Newark, Livermore, Castro Valley, Union City, Pleasanton, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Dublin, Sunol, or San Ramon, you are in a position to help the gay/lesbian community in a major way.

Now that AB-1 has successfully passed through the State Assembly, it faces a struggle in the State Senate. Your State Senator is Bill Lockyer and he holds the key vote in a Senate committee that will pass on this bill. We must win his vote or the bill may die in committee. We can agree that your job security is worth a 20-cent stamp or a 10-cent phone call. Please call Senator Lockyer at 582-3800 and tell him (a) that you live in his district and (b) that you would appreciate his vote for AB-1 in the Senate. Or write him a brief and polite but firm letter to: Senator Bill Lockyer, 22300 Foothill Blvd., Hayward, CA 94541.

If you would like to provide additional help in this crucial area, please call 849-3983. Thanks!

Armand J. Boulay  
Berkeley, CA

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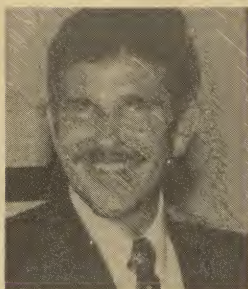


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# LETTERS

Metropolis Irc



Disco impresario Dick Collier.  
(Photo: Rink)

★ Lured by great poster art and potential hype I bought a ticket to Dick Collier's "Metropolis: A City Beneath A City" party on Gay Freedom Day only to find out that it was just all hype . . . that the expectations that the poster promised were not truthful . . . I think that it is shameful that I had to shell out \$15 for the worst, most boring party I had ever been to on that very festive day . . . I got the feeling that the party hosts didn't even try . . . they got me in there by use of their great poster art and flashing the famous name of guest star Grace Jones — but where was she? . . . I was long gone when she came on as the party was closing at 11:00 to sing one song . . . is it fair to use a star's name to attract an audience and then have her come on at the end of the party with one song . . . ah ha, I just noticed on the poster in small print under her name that she would be singing one song . . . why bother??? . . . obviously Collier is using the famous name to sell those tickets.

I want my money refunded — I feel ripped off. The atmosphere was gruesome: I couldn't wait to leave . . . and I know I was not the only one to feel this way. I would also like to see on future advertisements that state "portion of proceeds to benefit AIDS Research" or whatever . . . just how much of the proceeds will be going to charity. By the way, the tickets did have "No Refunds" printed on them. I am angered that I cannot obtain a refund and I really do feel ripped off. I will not attend another of Collier's parties . . . does anyone feel the same way???

Ted Smith  
San Francisco

### More on Metropolis

★ Once again, Dick Collier has taken advantage of the "gay community," but this time I won't take it without being heard.

On Sunday, June 26, the fiasco known as Metropolis was manifested at Brooks Hall. It was scheduled for 3 PM (note ticket). The doors opened 1½ hours late (at 4:30 PM). The show was advertised as featuring an appearance by Grace Jones. In tiny print it announced she would sing only one song.

Four friends and myself purchased tickets at \$15 each (total cost \$75, hard-earned \$) at 11:15 PM we were all disgusted, frustrated, and tired (there was no place to sit down at this overrated abortion) and we left without having seen or heard Grace Jones and without even a courtesy announcement as to what time she would appear.

We are fed up with Mr. Collier's mercenary tactics and we will not support any further delusions of his grandeur.

Dan Bova  
San Francisco

### Cover Up with Flowers

★ A few weeks ago, at one o'clock in the morning at the Troc, I was dressed to the teeth, half in my cups (but I'm a cheap date, you know) and feeling no pain when along came two women who wanted to know how Sister Sadie felt about all the swastikas around town. I got really upset and simply blew aside all sensibility and sweetness and told them I thought those people could do whatever they wanted. I was upset because I thought, "What in the hell would you expect any caring person to say? And if you already know that answer, why ask the question?" — at one o'clock in the morning at the Trocadero. I was upset at being confronted and checked out for my political correctness, being demanded to be placating and patronizing. And so we parted on less than friendly terms.

You know, it doesn't matter what I think. And it doesn't matter much what you think either. What does matter is what we do.

I have thought about that meeting many times since, and I am now reminded about that old adage: "When you have lemons, make lemonade." Well, I am delighted to announce that this particular lemon is being transformed into a lemon cake with lemon frosting and a squeeze left over for a nice glass of tea . . .

To all those who care to join, I am forming the Flower Power Street Brigade to stamp out symbols of hatred and death on the streets, sidewalks, and buildings of San Francisco. So grab a can or two of your favorite colors of spray paint and patrol with us in your spare time. Every time we see a swastika or other mention of hatred, we will cover it over and paint flowers instead. Let's keep our city as gorgeous as it can be and do a job the city apparently has chosen not to deal with.

So, you wanna be a part? Give a call at the Sister Hotline where I get messages: 431-8776, get some paint, and let's make a party. Got a car? Or, if you know of any areas of particular need for some beauty, call and let us know. Or go out on your own and clean it right up. Too lazy but want to help? Donations are gladly accepted. Okay, already?

Until then, it's now. Love and kisses,

Sister Sadie, Sadie, the Rabbi Lady  
San Francisco

### To Karr

★ As another Lesbian I am willing to continue some dialogue about your latest "Karnal Knowledge."

I think we should get clear about trying something and doing something. If you are trying to be sensitive to women's needs and politics it implies failure already. Trying something is a half-assed attempt to superficially cover a subject. If it cannot be researched enough so that a person can confidently know his or her position and can back it up, the subject should be left alone. Now if you want to familiarize yourself seriously with women's needs and politics, then read up on it. Old Wives Tales bookstore or, for that matter, any good bookstore with a women's section ought to do for starters. You might find out during your studies that we women are just as diversified and varied as you guys.

I am furthermore asserting that to have "H's" phone call was welcomed by you. What better way than that to write another hate-filled column lumping all dykes together into the stereotypical mold that you think about us. "But when you are an ignorant sexist pig like me it sometimes seems only death or dishonor can please a dyke." As a self-professed pig you had a ball wallowing in it. What makes me feel good about the whole article is that fortunately I know a great many gay people who are not as male chauvinist as you are. There is little difference between a straight one and a gay one, you know.

As to the subject matter of your article and your rape quote, it really saddened me. Some people won't let a chance go by without a dig at women. With a little respect for women you would have never written that line. And with a little psychological touch and compassionate kindness you could have defused the situation with "H." It seems that maybe your people skills can't be used with dykes. And to write a mean article about an obviously very hurt and angry woman surely seems like pouring oil into the fire.

I read the B.A.R. weekly and I know that there are not many articles catering to us, feminism, lesbianism, and gay/lesbian dialogue. But then I also don't think that you think the paper is for us either. There appear anti-women sentiments from time to time, more frequently than I'd like to see them. But I guess they represent the feelings of quite a few gay men and as long as we are allowing them to happen the whole thing will continue, just like any other prejudice. I will not be dissuaded by some gay men who hate women and particularly dykes from relating to gay men and pointing out our common struggle. I do think, however, that many men, gay or straight, don't believe that our struggle for equality is their struggle also. So again, we can't expect any help from many of you. Many women do not pay back in kind, having fully realized that this attitude has to be overcome; we have to finally start getting along. "Kill them with kindness instead of hostility" might be a piece of advice. But maybe it does not fit into your macho approach to life.

And lastly, "H" did not have any obligation to inform you and educate you. You already knew what it was she was objecting to. Otherwise you would not have pondered whether to write the line in the first place. When having been dumped on since the Christian institution of patriarchy it might just not be possible for some of us to calmly converse about our oppression. Or would you discuss with a black man calmly why he should want to be a slave. He might do more than "H." He might just punch you out. But maybe that fits better into your macho preference.

Be that as it may, your article depressed the shit out of me. I just wish that you would broaden your political awareness more to include women. It would be a milestone toward a better world.

Heidi Mueller  
San Francisco

### Benefit Thanks

★ During the years I have known, worked with, and been friends with members of the Lesbian and Gay community of S.F., nothing has been more personally satisfying or rewarding than co-chairing the June 23rd National AIDS/KS Foundation Benefit at Davies Hall. The gala was a spectacular success. Particular thanks should be extended to Bob Ross, Dr. Marcus Conant, Debbie Reynolds, Shirley MacLaine, Sylvester, Richard Sheenan, Morgana King, Sharon McNight, Gary Wiener, George Kirby, Tim McKenna, Russ Ally, and the countless volunteers from the Foundation.

Additionally, I would like to recognize the businesses listed below. They interrupted their normal business activities to allow an announcement of the Benefit to be made to their patrons. Sylvester, Sister Boom Boom, and Sonny Padilla accompanied me on this mini-odyssey through: Moby Dick, Sutter's Mill, Blue Belle, Trocadero, Cafe Sn. Marcos, Arena, Alta Plaza, Buzzy's, Prism, Elephant Walk, Pacific Exchange, Church Street Station, Eagle, Endup, Phoenix, Renegade, I-Beam, and the Lesbian/Gay Film Festival.

Using the kind of concerted energy shown in producing the benefit, I have no doubt that we ultimately will find the means to conquer this catastrophic disease.

Lia Triff (Mrs. Melvin) Belli  
San Francisco



# Ex-Sen. Briggs Charged with 'Brandishing' Weapon

Former State Senator John Briggs — long-time foe of Gay liberation — is facing a misdemeanor charge in El Dorado County.

On June 6 in Cameron Park, a process server claimed Briggs shot at him. In turn, Briggs was charged by El Dorado County District Attorney Ron Tepper with "brandishing."

Tepper told Pat Lakey, staff writer for El Dorado County's *Mountain Democrat* that he didn't charge Briggs with a felony count of assault with a deadly weapon because there wasn't enough evidence to back it up.

"I don't like to charge the felony unless the evidence indicates he was intending to fire (a gun) at someone (intending to hit him)," Tepper said. The district attorney added that "it's not so unusual in this county" for such incidences to occur, and he said he has not had much success in prosecuting on felony charges.

Briggs was identified in a photographic lineup as being the man who allegedly fired a rifle

about three feet away from Chuck Putney, a registered process server who said he went to Briggs' home north of Placerville to deliver legal documents relating to a plumbing bill. Putney identified Briggs from a driver's license photo, according to sheriff's detectives.

Putney said he was confronted by a man at the Briggs home who identified himself as a security guard and ordered Putney to leave. Putney said he began explaining his purpose and the man fired a shot near him and asked, "Will you leave now?"

The man, wearing a suit and tie, allegedly punched Putney in the face after grabbing the legal papers from the dashboard of Putney's car.

This incident occurred shortly after 7 a.m. at the Briggs home on Wallace Drive, off Highway 49 between Placerville and Coloma.

Putney said he was parked along Wallace near Highway 49 speaking into a portable tape recorder a few minutes following the shooting when he saw the man who had fired the gun drive

up to a row of mailboxes and check one of them. That led Putney to believe it may be Briggs, he told the reporter. He said the license plate on the car also indicated the former senator was the same man who fired the shot because the license was similar to those issued to some state senators.

Briggs represented Orange County in the Senate from 1976 to 1981, when he retired. He currently runs a lobbying business in Sacramento.

Although Briggs refused to speak with sheriff's detectives, referring them to his lawyer, district attorney Tepper said he has spoken with Briggs.

"We also sent him a letter that requires him to stop off at the (county) jail and go through booking within ten days, and I told him there were no exceptions," Tepper said. "I explained to him that no one would try to embarrass him, but he wasn't too eager to do that. Jail officials said if Briggs fails to show up within the allotted time, a warrant for his arrest will be issued.

If convicted of brandishing a weapon Briggs could face a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a minimum of three months behind bars. Some exceptions to a jail sentence are possible, however, according to Tepper.

## Gay Choruses

(Continued from page 1)

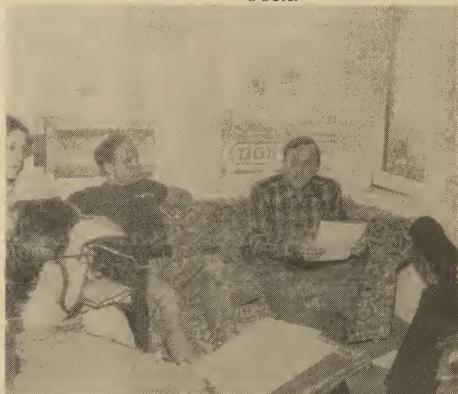
\$4,000 in cash is anticipated from a grant by Remy Martin. With the cash they will pay the telephone bill, payroll taxes, the rent, a bill to the Opera House, and the post office. Members of the board were to contact all other creditors this week to make them aware of the financial problem. Included in that group are six people who collectively loaned the organization over \$7,000 in the month of June.

Golden Gate Performing Arts also needs money to make payments on two notes which together total almost \$2,500 each month. A default could result in the foreclosure of a home owned by former chorus business manager Jay Davidson and another owned by Roger Cappel. The loans were taken out against the homes to provide capital for the 1981 tour of the United States by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. These monthly payments cover interest and not the principal of \$169,000.

salary commitment.

Following his offer to work without pay, Veniegas demanded that Golden Gate Performing Arts reduce their operating costs by moving from their Castro Street office to a less expensive location in the Pride Center. He also demanded that the chorus move their rehearsal space from the Unitarian Church to the Pride Center to help defray costs. The salary and rental cuts will shave over \$25,000 a year from the group's operating costs. Amazingly, there were board members who felt the moves were made too quickly and hoped for a delay. Veniegas, Bob Shedd, and Jay Davidson, who has a home to lose, pushed the changes through the board.

At their board meeting, the group stated that they would tell their creditors that this was the first time they were unable to pay their bills and they would give a generally optimistic profile of GGPA.



Golden Gate Performing Arts executives discuss the chorus' deficits. (Photo: Rink)

Before the board meeting last week, Men's Chorus Director Ernie Veniegas contacted the two other people who receive a salary from the chorus. He told the board that they had all chosen to work without a contract and for no salary. Significantly, when the outstanding bills were reviewed, Veniegas' June salary was sidestepped by the board. The board was aware that they were without funds to meet the

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus was founded by Jon Sims in November 1978. Their first public appearance was at City Hall on the day that Harvey Milk and George Moscone were assassinated. Their first concert was December 20, 1978, and served to introduce their first permanent conductor, Dick Kramer. On June 4, 1981, the chorus embarked on a national tour. The tour was a critical and

PR success, but a financial disaster. Before the chorus left, tour promoters assured the Gay community that the tour was a guaranteed fiscal success. Only on their return was the reverse found to be the case. In the summer of 1981 the chorus launched the first of many fundraising ventures to retire their debt. Two years later they have not completed their goal... while the community has lost interest in both their success and their fiscal difficulties. Ernie Veniegas was hired as Artistic Director in June 1982.

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus made its debut over three years ago at Mission High School under the direction of Robin Kay. In January 1983 she left the group, and the chorus is currently under the direction of Interim Conductor Sherrin Loyd.

Golden Gate Performing Arts is a nonprofit organization created to support the two choruses and to distribute the record "San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus Tours America '81."

The members of the board appear determined to pull Golden Gate Performing Arts through this crisis. They are scheduled to meet tonight (Thursday) to again review their financial situation at 7:00 at their 480 Castro Street office; it could well be their final meeting at that address.

A. White

## Castro Class

The City College course Gay and Lesbian Literature, English 55A, will be offered again during the Fall term at the Castro/Valencia site of City College, Everett Middle School at 17th and Church. The instructor is Peg Cruikshank. Classes meet Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 9:30. Writers will include Christopher Isherwood, Audre Lorde, Jane Rule, Walt Whitman, Sappho, E.M. Forster, and Willa Cather. The course will also cover the anthologies *New Gay Plays*, *Lesbian Fiction* and *On the Line: New Gay Fiction*. Tuition is free. Registration information: 239-3581. Because of the change in the City College calendar, the first meeting will be August 16.

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**L.A.'s Gay Graduate School in New Quarters**



Los Angeles campus of the Gay graduate school.

ONE Institute of Los Angeles — the nation's only Gay graduate school — has forwarded pictures of its new home on a three-and-a-half acre campus.

It also announced its course offerings for the next several semesters. The Fall term for homosexual studies runs from September 6 to December 19. The Spring term runs from February 6 to May 21. Write 3340 Country Club Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90019 for tuition costs and catalogs.

The Graduate School of ONE Institute, an independent educational institution, is devoted to homophile studies (Gay, Lesbian, and related studies). It offers programs of study leading to the Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Homophile Studies. The school is authorized to issue degrees by the California State Department of Education.

Its founders give five cogent reasons why one might want to study at the Gay graduate school:

- As part of the oldest homophile organization in the U.S. (ONE Incorporated, founded in 1952), ONE Institute is an internationally established institution.

- It is the only graduate school in the U.S. expressly

dedicated to the study of homophile experience and culture.

- The school offers courses not available elsewhere. Recent course offerings have included "Religion and Sexual Minorities," "Homophile Literature," and "Homosexuality and Psychotherapy." Current and future offerings are equally exciting.

- The school's faculty members are nationally recognized in their fields, and are leaders in

the Gay/Lesbian community.

- ONE's library houses one of the largest collections in the world of material on homophilia and sexuality. It contains over 7,000 volumes, 200 significant runs of periodicals and newspapers, and more than 60 archival containers of materials relating to sexual minorities, human sexuality, and the Gay and Lesbian experience. ■



A graduate school on a three-acre campus is dedicated to the study of Gay experience and culture.

**'Wall Street Journal' Bounces Atlas Ad**

(Continued from page 1)

help wanted ad that asks for a "salesman" as opposed to a "salesperson."

All the same, the Atlas ad did not run afoul of this prohibition because it called for only a "qualified person" to fill the position of Chief Executive Officer, now held by a non-Gay person.

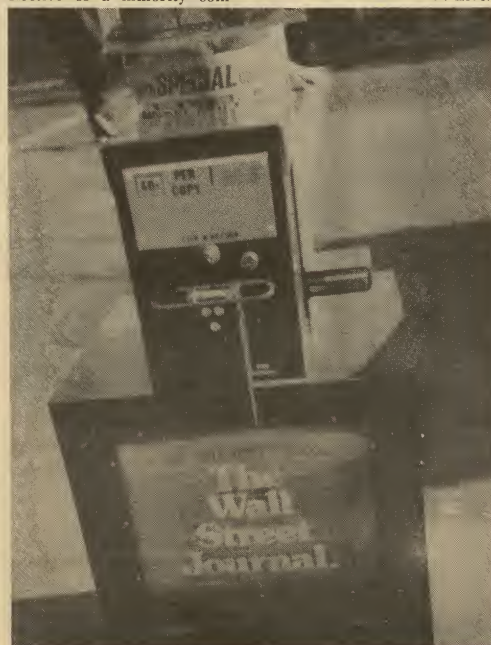
A Wall Street Journal spokesperson told the Bay Area Reporter that the newspaper does not give reasons when it rejects an ad but expects the advertiser to call in to find out what was objectionable. The Journal claims this Atlas never did.

James Sullivan, National Manager in New York City, said what the newspaper found objectionable was how the bank positioned itself in search for a CEO. He said the indication of sexual orientation was more than necessary. He said that if a client identified a bank as "heterosexual" they would find it equally unnecessary.

He reminded this reporter that a newspaper has the right to accept or reject advertising as it sees fit. He would not accept the

idea that Gay/Lesbian was reflective of a minority community.

P. Lorch



The Wall Street Journal turned down an Atlas Savings & Loan want ad. Bank directors were not happy. (Photo: Rink)



## Wharton Named to S.F. General Hospital Board



David Wharton will be throwing a fundraiser and his hat into the supervisorial ring. (Photo: Rink)

Dave Wharton, the highest vote-getter of any nonincumbent office-holder in last November's supervisorial election, is the newest member of the San Francisco General Hospital Volunteer Board of Directors. San Francisco General Hospital, which is run by the City Department of Health, is a major AIDS diagnostic and treatment center. "The hospital serves many Gays and Lesbians as patients, but the number of hospital volunteers from our community is negligible," Wharton says. Volunteers donate over 55,000 hours a year to S.F. General Hospital to humanize the facility for patients and their families.

Wharton, an attorney in private practice who has become increasingly well known in the Gay community and the city of San Francisco, has plans to shape the S.F. General Volunteer Board. "My first priority is to have the Board focus on AIDS and other Lesbian and Gay health issues.

I want to see a wider variety of San Francisco contractors considered for the goods and services the hospital requires, especially minority and small businesses." Wharton is also studying the possibilities of constructing a parking garage for visitor and patient use that will relieve congestion of residential streets of the Mission District.

Dave Wharton is active in the Chamber of Commerce Small Business Legislative Committee, the United Way legal services allocations committee, Alice B. Toklas and Golden Gate Democratic Clubs, Golden Gate Business Association, and San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR). He is also telling people he will be re-running for the Board of Supervisors in 1984.

Bilingual volunteers and people who would like experience relating to people in crisis should contact Dave at 648-4440 for more information. ■

## National AIDS Lobby Project Formed

In an effort to coordinate local efforts to combat the nation's "number one health emergency," more than 30 national and local community organizations have formed The National AIDS Federation with an AIDS lobby project to be based in Washington, D.C. More than 100 groups are expected to join the effort.

"The need for a united and coordinated effort to inform and assess our elected and health officials' response to the AIDS crisis has grown tremendously," noted Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force and a temporary steering committee member of the AIDS lobby project.

"As this health crisis has grown from the concern of officials in major metropolitan centers, to a national health emergency that threatens the well-being of all Americans, we have found that a single voice to coordinate efforts for federal funding of medical research to combat Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and to coordinate the efforts of federal agencies on behalf of persons with AIDS is needed," she added.

The National AIDS Federation Lobby Project to begin efforts this summer will be staffed with a lobbyist as well as support staff.

The creation of this project was decided at the recent Fifth National Lesbian/Gay Health Conference in Denver. The temporary steering committee members of the Lobby Project include Steven Endean, Gay Rights National Lobby, and Virginia M. Apuzzo, NGTF, and representatives from AIDS support groups from New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Dallas, Houston, Chicago, and Atlanta. People with AIDS will provide much needed direction to the effort.

Funding for the lobby project has begun with commitments of more than \$100,000.

Additional support is expected from individuals and group organizations. Donations for the project may be sent to: Paul Popham, Treasurer, National AIDS Lobby Project, c/o Gay Men's Health Crisis, Box 274, 132 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011. ■

## Rink on Display

Harvey Milk asked Rink to display his contact prints of the 1974 Gay Parade in Harvey's Castro Camera store windows. The enormous diversity of the participants was something that

Harvey wanted conveyed to passersby.

Following a nine-year tradition, Rink's 1983 Parade contact prints are on display in the windows of Orphan Andy's Restaurant, 3991 17th Street at Castro & Market, through July. ■

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## A Personal Voyage

# An AIDS Person Seeks Greater Control of the Issue

by Dan Turner

The Fifth National Lesbian/Gay Health Conference and the Second National Forum on AIDS was held in early June in the mile-high city of Denver. As a new member of the KS/AIDS Foundation regional board, I was sent to participate on the Patient Advisory Committee. I have been a KS/AIDS patient now for over a year and a half and felt compelled to give my emotional and inside support to a conference that could have an impact on my life and the lives of others I love.

When I heard the week before that four of my fellow patients had died one day after the other, the depressing reality sunk into my heart, and I had to muster the stamina to rediscover Pike's Peak for them. Was my good health just a reprieve? I have to keep asking myself this question, but there is no time to stop being a pioneer on the road to health.

The last time I was in Denver I was a hippie and stayed with a friend at the YMCA. I was hitchhiking through the place with shoulder length hair and a ripe butt, newly plowed. The first time I was in Denver was with my mom and dad in 1956 when I was 9 years old. The tallest building then was the tower of the Daniel Fisher department store. The store is now gone, but the tower remains with its Big Ben clock ticking Rocky Mountain Time over the new Denver mall. The only thing missing is the cafe where my mother and I had an afternoon snack after

son most of the time. The news on Lincoln's birthday 1982 had not shocked me so much as surprised me — bright-eyed, deathless, midwestern, Illinois-bred boy that I was, still believing that ten years in San Francisco was just a long vacation. Why was the doctor taking so much time to be kind? I did not feel sick — nor would I believe it until I felt that way. Life-threatening? So what isn't?

impetus to try it. I started the small dose protocol in August of 1982 and continue to receive it five days a week every third week by injection in the arm.

Why would a Gay man want to be fertile? I don't know, but I put my sperm in the sperm bank in Los Angeles — just in case. Now on interferon I am fertile again. I feel in more control of my health — and I've sudden-

Among all the statistics, graphs, and theories there must be a human voice.

Had I not doubted my strength with hepatitis and won the mental battle that I fought with it, I might have succumbed to the talons of fear, but no, I went to the Castro Theater that night and listened to Ethel Merman belt out songs in *Call Me Madam*. Music was not so tran-

ly realized that control is what it is all about.

That is why the patients went to the National Health Conference in Denver and became there "People with AIDS." We want some control over our lives. We do not want a disease, doctors, government officials, or anybody else to push us around. As Bobbi Campbell said, "Don't play football with my life!"

How can patients or persons with AIDS who are not health care workers or professionals hope to have an impact at a national health conference? What gives them the credentials to serve on boards? I was not sure when I went to Denver, and now I know why.

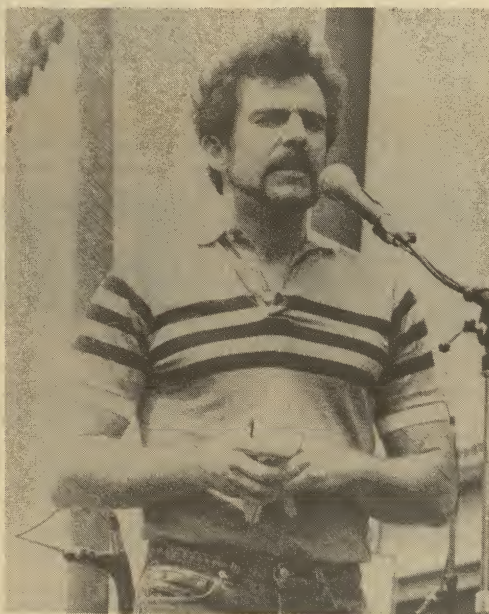
Among all the statistics, graphs, and theories, there must be a human voice — and what better voice to hear than the person fighting for his life. We were the reason the Forum on AIDS existed. What was human in this whole event was us, and we had felt railroaded and ignored. Politics and secret agendas had gotten in the way. Who was dying — facts and figures — or real people?

People with AIDS had to begin with the idea of attending the conference as consultants last spring. We had to organize a committee of fellow persons with AIDS. We had to raise money to assure that we could all be present. At least one of us who worked toward this goal of complete participation would not be able to attend, but Mark Feldman was with us all in spirit.

If it were not for the Candlelight March for AIDS which was organized by Gary Walsh and other persons with AIDS and brought to fruition by thousands of Gay men and Lesbians who gave us their emotional and financial support in early May, the funding would not have been available to send us to the conference.

Twelve of us from New York, San Francisco, and Houston joined the one participant from Denver and planned our strategy each evening. The process of learning to trust each other from different cities took time, but in our small group we had personal experiences with AIDS in common. Could our gathering of arms and emotions translate to the conference at large? Could our microcosm of unity inspire the fractious assembly of thirty-

(Continued on next page)



Bay Area Reporter theater reviewer and AIDS person Dan Turner recollects on Denver health conference. (Photo: Rink)

visiting the Denver Mint many years ago. She referred to it then as the Daniel Fisher tearoom. But those were the innocent 50's — at least I was innocent.

Now the new and varied skyscrapers vie with the Rockies for attention. They come close, but they are still a lesser breed to the range that stampedes across the state and raises its granite horns snowcapped into the sky. I was just as thrilled at thirty-five to see them as I had been at twenty-three and nine. I looked from my hotel room every evening before dinner as thunderheads rose and curtains of rain descended on to the open plain. One day there was hail and lightning.

I thought of my year and a half as a person with AIDS. I would accept the new appellation as others at the conference, because it was true I was only a patient part-time and still a per-

sistent as life. I could and can hold on to it.

I worked steadily on a new musical I was scoring with a script by Daniel Curzon. Song by song I kept thinking — "if I can just get to the end of the show!" All during five months of chemotherapy I kept putting notes on paper with my friend and pianist, John Trowbridge, helping and giving me emotional support. Before I knew it, we were finished and the musical was recorded by friends and taped by Randall Schiller Productions.

I was still alive! What next? I decided to be the fourth of ten patients to receive interferon for Kaposi's Sarcoma in the first experiment to be held at S.F. General Hospital. That it was more natural than chemotherapy, which had caused me to go sterile, gave me the



## GUEST COLUMN

### Transcending Parade Politics

by Duke J. Armstrong

Sometimes those things that are the best can also be the worst: what touches us closest can also hurt us the most. Love is that way. So for us is the Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration.

Nothing is more important for the Gay movement, particularly in this year of crisis, than an uproarious parade and celebration: a ringing reaffirmation of the validity of Gay life, its dignity and beauty. But because of its closeness, the Parade can also kill our movement. Depending on its thrust, the Parade can reinspire us for the work ahead or it can sink our cause in a mire of irrelevancy.

That latter course is what the Parade Committee is so desperately working to achieve: trying to tie our cause to a grim, disreputable socialist agenda. The published Parade program tells it all: hate America, spit on the President of the United States, admire Nicaragua and its new fascist regime, help foreign mercenaries overthrow the popularly elected government of El Salvador, end the free enterprise system, close down the Lawrence Livermore Lab, be a dedicated commie. The Civic Center speeches will mouth the same unsmiling rhetoric.

Is this really what the Gay cause is all about? Of course not. Not even a respectable minority of men and women

from the Gay community believe any of this drivel. But the Parade Committee does not care. It is too busy pushing its tired socialist propaganda to understand anything or to represent anyone.

It is rather pathetic. A small band of aging socialists who have never understood anything of life, desperately peddling their hackneyed wares, desperately clinging to a hollow dream. And they will lose again — for the vitality and beauty of life will triumph over the cold, in-



(Photo: Rink)

human socialist vision. Boris Pasternak movingly tells that tale in *Doctor Zhivago*. The fantastic Strelnikov sacrifices all for his socialist vision, sanctioning horrible atrocities for the sake of an abstract, impersonal cause until finally there is nothing left for him but a bullet in the head, self-inflicted. It is Lara and Zhivago alone who grasp the poetry of life.

The ultimate ugliness of the socialist vision cannot be disguised. Wherever put into prac-

tice, it has brought repression and human deprivation. Look at it in Russia, in Afghanistan, in Poland. Look at it in Cuba: the labor movement, destroyed; Gay rights, nonexistent; the church, suppressed; free speech and free press, stamped into the ground; women, oppressed; the youth of the country, bleeding in African adventures. Cuba is a dead society fashioned at the whim of a totalitarian dictator.

And we have nothing in common with that. Unlike leftist politics, the Gay movement stands in the throbbing mainstream of life. It is all about personal relations and the innermost feelings and sensitivities and dreams of ordinary people. It gently touches individuals rather than dictating the life of masses. It is felt and understood, not artificially imposed. Gays get nothing from leftist coalitions, and the movement will triumph only insofar as it is able to distance itself from the monstrous inhumanity of twentieth century socialism.

And Gays will do just that this weekend, notwithstanding the machinations of the Parade Committee. The Gay cause will break out of the socialist straightjacket so carefully imposed by the Strelnikovs of the Gay movement. When the Band marches by playing John Phillip Sousa, when the Chorus sings "San Francisco," the Parade Committee's whole unhappy edifice will crumble. Thousands of Gay men and women will do their own thing in their own way to reaffirm the transcending value of the individual. The strident speeches will be drowned out, and dead socialism will give way before the living beauty of Gay life. *Gaudeamus igitur.* ■

### AIDS Person Seeks Greater Control of Issue

(Continued from previous page)

eight Gay organizations from around the country?

It was our goal, and I believe we succeeded. A federation was formed with a steering committee that includes people with AIDS. I attended the think tank to start organizing and funding an AIDS lobbyist in Congress.

Because the Patient Needs Forum seemed to connect on a visceral level, we decided to hold our own Meeting People with AIDS Forum to continue direct discussion. Again, we felt in control of our lives because we took control. Though it was not on the official schedule of events, we found the time and saw to it that others in the conference could meet with us. I wanted to chant like DEVO, "Are we not men?"

Michael Callin, co-author with Richard Berkowitz of *How To Have Sex In An Epidemic*, said, "It's time for the real experts to speak out," meaning himself and other persons with AIDS. Bob Cecchi, also from New York, explained how "participation in life" was the most important thing to him; and another AIDS person, Arthur Felson stated, "Suffering and illness do not preclude one from love." He suggested that we "redefine our relationships with others as Gay men and Lesbians and go out and tell others."

It was with great pride that we walked together to the podium on the final day of the conference and gave our recommendations as People with AIDS. We had written them as a group of men who plan to survive, not as children crossing the street for the first time in their lives.

The Statement from The Advisory Committee of People with AIDS are:

We condemn attempts to label us "victims," which term implies defeat, and we are only occasionally "patients," which term implies passivity, helplessness, and dependence upon the care of

others. We are "People with AIDS."

Recommendations for Health Care Professionals are:

1. Come out, especially to their patients who have AIDS.
2. Always clearly identify and discuss the theory they favor as to the cause of AIDS, since this bias affects the treatment and advice they give.
3. Get in touch with their feelings (e.g. fears, anxieties, hopes, etc.) about AIDS and not simply deal with AIDS intellectually.
4. Take a thorough personal inventory and identify and examine their own agendas around AIDS.
5. Treat people with AIDS as whole people, and address psycho-social issues as well as biophysical ones.
6. Address the question of sexuality in People with AIDS, specifically, sensitively and with information about Gay male sexuality in general and the sexuality of people with AIDS in particular.

Recommendations for All People are:

1. Support us in our struggle against those who would fire us from our jobs, evict us from our homes, refuse to touch us, separate us from our loved ones, our community or our peers, since available evidence does not support the view that AIDS can be spread by casual, social contact.
2. Do not scapegoat people with AIDS, blame us for the epidemic or generalize about our lifestyles.

Recommendations for People with AIDS are:

1. Form caucuses to choose their own representatives to deal with the media, to choose their own agenda, and to plan their own strategies.
2. Be involved at every level of

decision-making and specifically serve on the boards of directors of provider organizations.

3. Be included in all AIDS forums with equal credibility as other participants, to share their own experiences and knowledge.

4. Substitute low-risk sexual behaviors for those which could endanger themselves or their partners, and we feel that people with AIDS have an ethical responsibility to inform their potential sexual partners of their health status.

Rights of People with AIDS are:

1. To full and satisfying sexual and emotional lives as anyone else.
2. To quality medical treatment and quality social service provision without discrimination of any form including sexual orientation, diagnosis, economic status or race.
3. To full explanations of all medical procedures and risks, to choose or refuse their treatment modalities, to refuse to participate in research without jeopardizing their treatment and to make informed decisions about their lives.
4. To privacy, to confidentiality of medical records, to human respect and to choose who their significant others are.
5. To live and die in dignity.

These recommendations became part of the Second National Forum on AIDS report. Though we began tentatively, and with some suspicion as patients, we grew and shared together as People with AIDS and helped to unify the conference. Through our emotional and personal touch, we were able to create something tangible and progressive, people with AIDS made a difference in Denver. We were high on health. In the words of Tennessee Williams, "The violets in the mountains are cracking the rocks!" ■



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## POLITICS AND PEOPLE

### State Senate GOP Shift Bodes Ill

WAYNE FRIDAY

Reacting to the paranoia of some Park and Recreation employees, who wore protective suits while cleaning up after the Gay Freedom Day Parade, as well as other incidents like those two stupid cops who urged the Democrats to hold their convention elsewhere because of the AIDS scare, Mayor Feinstein last week issued a strong statement in an attempt to dispel rumors and misunderstandings about the crisis. Meanwhile, in a display of Monday morning quarterbacking, Park and Rec Director Tom Malloy sent a letter about AIDS to department employees in their paychecks.



Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport rubs it in.

Some of Mayor Feinstein's Gay friends not at all amused by Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport's theatrics in last week's Gay Freedom Day Parade; Mayor Newport rode in a convertible with a sign on either side of the car proclaiming himself to be "the only mayor in the Parade." The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club was apparently delighted by the Newport tactic — that club sent out a press release regarding the mayor complete with a photo of the East Bay mayor in his automobile.

14 to 13% during the same period. • The Toklas Demo Club will elect a new vice-president Monday night to replace Jo Kuney, who is joining Alan Cranston's local staff. Both Diane Christensen and Margaret Frost want the job. • Meanwhile, the blast by Toklas president Randy Stallings in the current *Alice Reports*, the club's newsletter, will do nothing to heal the rift between Toklas and the Harvey Milk Gay Demo Club.

Gossip among Washington and New York City political writers has led Kennedy seeing more and more of Jackie Onassis, both in public and in private. • The induction last week of Leo Bazile to the Oakland City Council gives that city a Black majority on its Council for the first time in its 131-year history. • Acting as though she had something to actually worry about, Mayor Feinstein's campaign committee will take over the Cow Palace in September for a performance of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus as a fundraiser.

The latest national Gallup Poll for the '84 Demo race has Walter Mondale at 41%, John Glenn went with 24%, Cranston with a weak 8%, and Reuben Askew of Florida with 4%, and Gary Hart with 3% (however, Black leader Jesse Jackson's name was not included in the Gallup Poll and political observers expect the numbers to change measur-



Mayor Dianne Feinstein welcomes Norwegian Lesbian guests, on the right a member of the Norwegian Parliament and official guest at the '83 Parade. (Photo: Greg Day)

in demanding a veto in the remote chance the legislation gets past the Senate. • Joel Ventresca, one of the leaders of the unsuccessful recall fight against Dianne Feinstein reportedly will file as a candidate for mayor in the November race.

*Conservative Digest*, the large monthly publication whose readers choose an annual "Most Admired Conservatives" list, reports that the Moral Majority's Jerry Falwell placed ahead of President Reagan this year while two other conservative favorites of the past who consistently have placed on the list, Anita Bryant and NCPAC's Terry Dolan, have both been dropped. • The Miller Brewing Company, the nation's second-largest producer of beer, agreed recently to revise its non-discrimination clause to include sexual orientation. The policy is effective nationwide and covers 12,000 Miller employees. The original plan to include the clause from the National Ass'n of Business Councils, the national Gay business group, whose reps negotiated with Miller on the Gay employment issues. Arthur Lazere, the immediate past president of NABC, held initial meetings with the company in May of 1982 (while the agreement covers Miller's employees, it does not affect Phillip Morris, the main holding company of Miller Brewing).

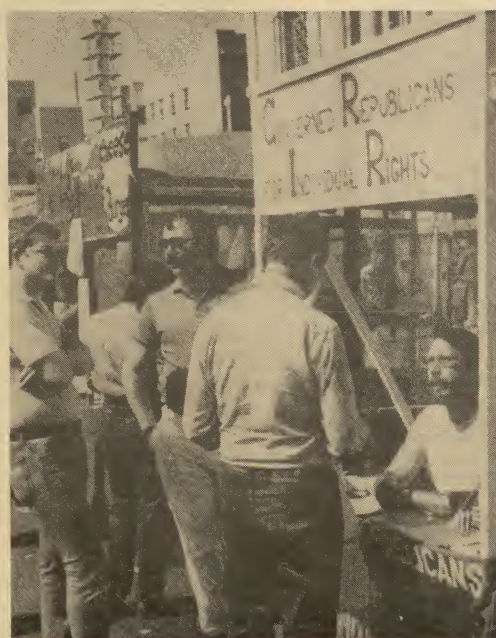
Mayor Dianne Feinstein wrote a letter to President Reagan last week urging him to sign Alan Cranston's legislation providing \$30 million

for public health emergencies which includes AIDS. • "Truck Two," the highly acclaimed Gay documentary on Gay life in Toronto will be shown at the Red Victorian movie house on Haight Street and this one should not be missed — and next Tuesday night, the 12th,



Gay-baiter Jerry Falwell

the Valencia Rose presents "The Society for Individual Rights" with veteran Gay activists W. E. Beardemph and Bill May as guest speakers; the presentation is part of the continuing "Gay and Lesbian Pioneers" history series (8 p.m., \$4, 863-3863 for info). • A brochure called "Can We Talk" about AIDS put out by the Milk Gay Demo Club's AIDS Education and Information Committee is probably one of the best pieces of info that I have seen on the subject yet. • Farm labor leader Cesar Chavez's son Fernando Chavez will be challenging Julio Calderon for the state-wide presidency of the Mexican-American Political Association (MAPA), at the state convention in San Jose later this month. ■



CRIR raised a booth at this year's post-Parade celebration. (Photo: Rink)

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Phyllis Lyon, Kate Monika, Louise Minnick, Del Martin, and Andy Toler at Feminist Demo debut. (Photo: Rink)

Much ado about nothing? The Democrats' attempt to make a scandal out of Ronald Reagan's 1980 campaign committee's possession of campaign documents; this is standard practice in campaigns and both parties practice it. • One point eight million letters to followers, personal appearances on radio

ably after Jackson announces his expected candidacy. • In the fundraising department, incidentally, Mondale leads big with \$5.1 million raised in the past six months with Glenn raising \$2.4 million and Alan Cranston raking in \$1.2 million during the same period. • The recent defeat of Republican

Deukmejian is more popular in June than he was in March — a 9% jump.

and TV, and prayer — lots of continuous prayer — is what the Rev. Jerry Falwell credits in bringing nearly \$10 million during a fundraising effort for his Old Time Gospel Hour. According to Falwell, the Gospel Hour receives some \$150 million a year in contributions from the faithful, but the religious leader of the New Right is quick to point out that the Gospel Hour's revenues and programs are separate from those of Falwell's political organization, the Moral Majority. • According to a recent California Poll, Governor Deukmejian is more popular now than he was three months ago. The number of Californians who rate the Duke as doing either an excellent or good job rose from 27% in March to 36% in June while the proportion of those who feel he has done a poor job decreased from

Senate Minority Leader William Campbell by the H.L. Richardson forces, led by GOP Senator Jim Nielsen, a Richardson protege spells bad news for AB-1's chances of passing in the Senate. Earlier this year, gun owners of America boss Richardson sent a fundraising letter to his faithful Right Wing flock saying that he would do all in his power to defeat the Gay employment bill should it reach the Senate. Now that Richardson has complete control of the GOP Senate leadership, it is expected that he and his leadership cronies, John Seymour of Anaheim and John Doolittle of Sacramento, will keep the GOP herd in line while leading the fight in the Senate against passage of AB-1. With the GOP Senate leadership now in Richardson's back pocket, don't be surprised if they go in force to Governor Deukmejian



## MEDIA QUEEN



### From Butterflies to Newsprint

KONSTANTIN BERLANDT

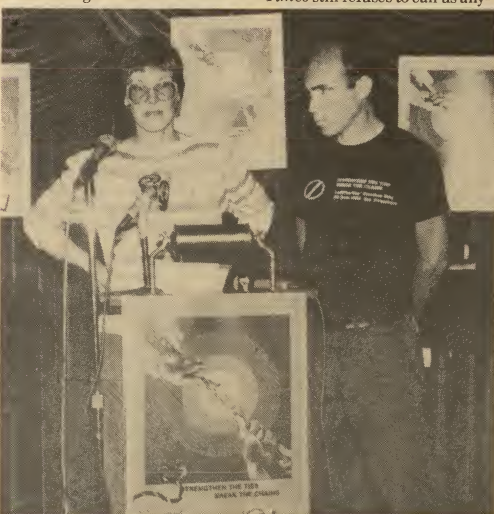
My grandmother compares it to when a war is over, how quickly the society reknits into what it was before all the slaughter and tragedy. The men and women who fought and worked to keep the world safe for democracy in the last war of great commitment, returning to what they fought to save — how disappointed they must have been to see that dream gradually turn into aspirations for next year's automobile and a washer-dryer combination in one's very own garage, the myths of progress through chemistry and a "higher standard of living."

A similar feeling washes over me when I look through the Tuesday *Chronicle* only 36 hours after the Parade: the last mention in that daily journal of chronic heterosexual wisdom a story about Parade garbage collection and AIDS hysteria, Erica Goode's albeit well-intentioned and well-played story quoting "the experts" without identifying one openly Gay person.

The question is, What impact does the Parade have, if two days later the media has already buried it under six sections of straight journalism?

Yes, we did have the front page picture in all the local dailies: *Chronicle*, *Examiner*, *Tribune* and *San Jose Mercury*. The *Mercury* ran theirs in color, yellow balloons behind an AIDS Fund banner. The *Tribune* ran a Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights banner with a sign slam-

ming the Feds for holding back research funds for AIDS. The *Examiner*'s initial front page picture featured those same tired "Thank God I'm Gay" vs. "Burn in Hell" signs that have been at



'83 Parade Co-Chairs Linda Boyd and Konstantin Berlandt this week were winding up their tenure of office. (Photo: Rink)

### AIDS Forum at Franklin Hospital

A panel of doctors, nurses, and counselors — all of whom have been actively involved in the care and treatment of AIDS patients — will answer questions on the disease at the second in a series of free public forums to be held at Franklin Hospital, Ralph K. Davies Medical

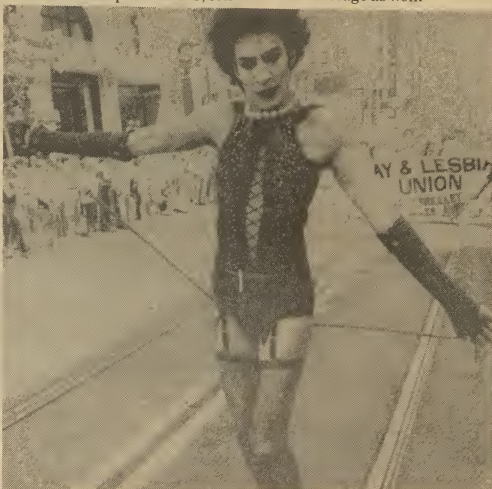
Center, Wednesday, July 20, 1983, at 7 p.m. in the hospital auditorium, level B.

The first public forum on AIDS was held at Franklin Hospital on June 1. The response and attendance was much larger than expected; the panel and

thing but "homosexuals."

As to whether the Parade was smaller or larger, the police estimate of 200,000 this year was actually larger than ever before. Parade Co-Chair Linda Boyd in her speech from the stage made a joke about crowd estimates, suggesting we all hold still so journalist Randy Alfred could get an accurate count from the mayor's balcony.

The Parade was also opening story on the TV's six o'clock news and received some national network coverage as well.



A solo '83 parade entrant.

tradicted by the *Examiner*'s opening graph by Jennifer Foote and Elvins Beitiks: "The crowd was monstrous, the parade miles long and the sense of Mardi Gras as strong as it's ever been." Both the *Examiner* and *Mercury* headlines picked up on the crowd's having defied AIDS fear, whipped up in the media all month.

The *Examiner*, *Tribune* and *Mercury* also referred to the Parade by its now official title Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day, while the *Chronicle* stylized, as Gay or Lesbian as some of them may be, continue to edit out the word Lesbian in the title. I wonder how long they used the word Negro or called the Champ Cassius Clay? But I guess we should consider ourselves living in enlightened territory, since the *New York Times* still refuses to call us any-

But when all is said and done, the preparations of a year put up and taken down, the last strains of Grace Jones and Sylvester quieted and the garbage in its plastic bags and dumpsters, the heterosexual society that was before and is afterwards in control of the media resumes, and we are once again left to put our hopes and dreams through their sieve of distortions.

Each day the headlines of murders and catastrophes modified by sports, business, comics, and columns. If only, I was thinking this morning, there was a Gay section of the *Chronicle* I could flip to each day, that, for all its distortions from separation and isolation, would, on the other hand, force them daily to find the multifaceted aspects of our community, the news we make on a daily basis that barely gets covered.

The Parade is many stories in itself: The Hayward Float Committee that next year plans to devote their fundraising efforts to establishing a community center there; the new rose triangle flag, a Gilbert Baker creation; the Gay Nicaraguan, Roberto Gurdian, who spoke; the enormous safety and medical team effort to ensure a smooth-running Parade. I have always wished our own Gay media would cover the Parade in encyclopedic fashion, sending out a team of journalists to report the varied aspects of our annual gathering and crescendo event.

But instead we have mostly our memories, our feelings from the day, the many wonderful faces and bodies and minds we touched and saw and played with, and our own internal feelings as each of us asked ourselves and each other, once again annually, who are we now, where have we been this year, and where are we going from here?

committee which sponsored the forum decided that there is a need to continue holding such meetings because of the many questions people have concerning AIDS.

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# An Interview with Robert Joyce

## Private High School Teacher Ousted with Trumped-up Charges

by Michael Benzry

Last week the salutorian of Lick-Wilmerding High School refused to speak at graduation. The administration of this private college preparatory school accused her of having controversial teacher Robert Joyce help her with her speech. This is the latest incident in a series of events that started over a year ago with a damaging anonymous letter (allegedly from aggrieved parents). The letter accused Joyce of being a communist, a homosexual, a drug dealer, and corruptive of the morals of youth. In August 1982 Joyce was removed from the position of Director of Activities. The end result is that Joyce — as of this month — has joined the ranks of the unemployed.

"They aren't firing me. They are just not inviting me back," Joyce told the *B.A.R.* "Their contention is that the anonymous letter had nothing to do with it. Yet when asked to cite the reasons, first they said it had nothing to do with my teaching. Next it was that I couldn't get along with this administration. Then they said it might have something to do with my teaching. Mr. Downes [Charles Downes, the headmaster] visited my class for one hour and did not write up an evaluation. Since then it has been the big lie tactic. He has told some members of the faculty that there is another side to this story and it is a big thing. In view of the fact that I've been accused of being a communist, a homosexual, a drug addict, and an alcoholic, what else is there? Downes said, 'I don't want to damage that man's career.' So that's why he didn't mention the real reason." At other times Downes said Joyce was not cooperative and was let go because of "professional standards." He admits Joyce was popular and communicates well.

Another reason given was that he spent too much time with the students after school, often participating in sports and wearing shorts, and that he permitted the students to refer to him as "Bobby." Joyce said that Downes told him "Bob is friendly, Bobby is familiar. We are not familiar with our students."

Charles Downes does not want to discuss Joyce, as it would violate Joyce's privacy. He felt these were confidential personnel matters. When told that Joyce felt even he wasn't privileged to this information, Downes said the real reasons were made very clear to Joyce in meetings and in a letter sent to Joyce this past December. "He and I have discussed this at great length. He knows exactly why," said Downes. Downes said that certain aspects of the teaching methods of Joyce were very good, and that Joyce was capable of excellent teaching.

One of the actions Joyce did which caused inconvenience for the school had to do with the scheduling. Joyce let everyone who was eligible sign up for his history class. Downes said that Joyce did this "to prove to me he was, one, the most popular teacher, and two, overworked." The logic of this escaped Downes. The other faculty had to spend a weekend redoing the schedules, as it was impossible to build all the student schedules around Joyce's class. In the end Joyce had the normal student load. As for the removal of Joyce from the Director of Activities position, the meeting in which Downes removed Joyce from that position was the meeting in which Joyce complained that he was overworked. Downes was not aware that this would affect Joyce's salary, as Joyce was given the salary that was arranged in his contract. Downes said that in most private schools teachers are not paid extra for such positions. This was the first year for Downes at the school, and he did not know that in this school

money was added to a teacher's salary. He did not know that there was a salary difference until Joyce sent the letter to all the parents after his contract was not renewed.

Downes said he would not be uncomfortable with a homosexual teacher on his staff, and that probably he did have one, going by statistics. He wasn't sure what the term "communist" would imply, so he could not give an opinion about a "communist" teacher. When asked what changes Joyce could have made, Downes said, "I'd prefer not to go into that." He said it would be accurate to state that Joyce resisted supervision.

Joyce said, "I sent a three-page letter to parents in which I outlined threats to dismiss me. In a one-page letter to the parents he [Downes] said, 'it's been an unpleasant year and I want to put it behind me. Bob Joyce was not invited back for unspecified reasons, and the letter was forgotten and destroyed over a year ago.' Actually he brought up the letter in October." The letter was written to the previous administration in January 1982, and the old administration called Joyce in to respond to the charges.

"When I asked him if he still had the letter and had he shown it to Denman [another administrator who Downes asked to be present as a witness to the conversation], he said, 'I felt justified in doing it because it's in the public domain.'" Downes again threatened to fire Joyce. "Now he won't admit to any of this," said Joyce.

"That was October 1982 so the letter was not forgotten. I have called them intimidating bullies and the whole administration arrogant bastards. They are and I would add to that now, liars." After this meeting, Joyce went to Gay activist attorney Matt Coles and asked him if he had a case. If they fired him, Coles said, he would have one. If not, there was not much that could be done. Downes and Denman could deny everything. "I have a long history of teaching. This is my fifth year and all reports have been good. I was President of the Faculty Senate and held an administrative position." Joyce continued, "The only thing different this year is the new administration. I am the same big-mouthed, outspoken person this year as I was last year. With the past administration it didn't seem to bother the



Private high school teacher Robert Joyce — popular with students, unpopular with administration. (Photo: Rink)

was one of two faculty members. "It's a divided faculty," said Joyce, "even more so since the students walked out. It reflects the stress of never knowing if you have a job from year to year. Some have been there for five to ten years, but every year they must be invited back. There is no pay scale; everyone negotiates their salary each year. Little bands and groups of faculty form together to protect their space."

One of these hostile teachers was caught hiding behind a curtain in Joyce's classroom in December 1981, one month before the letter was sent. This teacher was discovered by another teacher and a student. The class, U.S. History, was taught in the little theater. They went backstage to check the lighting and found the teacher hiding behind the curtain. When Joyce complained to the administration, the headmaster said, "It's water under the bridge; forget about it."

"What disturbs me is that it's in one small school and I am but a teacher. But then I read in the *Bay Area Reporter* that the same thing is happening, whether in the U.S. Navy to women, whether in the arts commission, whether in the police department in San Francisco. People are losing their jobs and no one is being specific as to why. Or if there are specific charges they don't seem to deal with the reality of the situation."

### EMPLOYERS AS BULLIES

"What I'm seeing, and I have to laugh a little because I don't want to go crazy, is something is happening across the board. When times are bad, job security is critical and it places the employer in a vastly strengthened position, a much stronger position as to who they want to hire. The other side of this coin is the employee is concerned about getting and keeping a job. So the employees, if their politics are to the left, [if they are] homosexual or different in any other way, they start to pull all this in a form of self-censorship, self-negation, and self-denial. When I read about these cases, I wonder about how much is going on that is not being reported primarily because people are concerned about losing their jobs. It makes you wonder what the intimidation factors are in all

walks of life for anyone who dares to be different politically or sexually or just chooses to speak his or her mind." As Joyce leaved through stacks of supportive letters from parents, friends, and strangers, he said, "Members of the faculty are seriously divided. Since all this happened, people I've been personally and professionally friendly with have turned against me, denounced me in their classroom. I expected it from a few but from some who I had respect for I didn't expect it at all. I don't know why they have decided to do this. Some have made it clear that they are supportive of me. They are probably putting their jobs in jeopardy."

The students have been on Joyce's side since the day they found out his contract would not be renewed. They found out at the end of March, when Joyce was told he was not going to be invited back, and thus the students couldn't sign up for his courses. The only thing Joyce was told was, "You simply don't work well with this administration." Joyce said nothing. He had been expecting this, as the only other times he had been called into the office he had been threatened with getting fired. It's a small school. Once some students found out he wasn't scheduled to teach any courses for next semester, it became well-known.

### STUDENTS WALK OUT

In April a petition was signed by 250 students of the total of 279 protesting Joyce's not being rehired. The students left their classes for three hours. They called in the press, and everything became public. The petition said that Joyce was "a proficient and effective teacher, as well as a warm and caring human being. His enthusiasm and extensive knowledge have taught us much." Joyce said that "now the party line for certain members of the faculty and certain administration is that somehow I engineered it. It fits in with Sarah's address at graduation." The student wrote a two-page letter to the faculty and administration in which she told of the intimidation she had received, said Joyce was not helping her write her speech, and that she would refuse to speak at graduation. "She really attacked them, their bullying, and for

(Continued on next page)

"They aren't firing me. They are just not inviting me back."

Teacher Robert Joyce

"Everyone admits this. The old administration renewed me knowing about this letter. A member of the board of trustees sent a copy to the new headmaster. They all admit the new administration came in April 1982 and called me in about the letter. He says that in April it was forgotten and destroyed." In August Joyce asked to see Downes in regard to several issues including the position Joyce held as Director of Activities of the school, and in regard to inequities in the Social Studies Department. Joyce had been President of the Faculty Senate and left that office to take the quasi-administrative position with a raise in salary. Downes removed Joyce from the position and threatened to fire Joyce because of what Downes saw as a personality conflict between Joyce and the chairman, Mr. Nelson.

### RELIGION IS CRAP

"In October a parent allegedly called and said that I said 'religion was crap.' They didn't even give me a chance to respond, and went on and on about how important religion was to the community. It's ironic that James Lick, who the school was named after, was a strong atheist. Downes said, 'I've heard you've refused to answer a question that you were a member of the communist party and told students that you have made it in the Gay community.' Then he summarized it all by saying 'this all fits in with the letter.'"

headmaster. He seemed to have a sense of balance that this man doesn't, or perhaps he had a smaller ego."

In January 1983, Downes again threatened firing, because 67 of 72 Juniors had registered for Joyce's two history sections. This, said Downes, was evidence that Joyce was an easy grader.

Joyce feels these actions are typical of the tone of those who run the school. In a retreat the faculty took in August, someone asked Downes if they could form a credit union. "He heard the word union and he said 'if a union comes in the front door, I go out the back door. I will never work for a unionized school.' The intimidation was, don't even consider one. Downes has made it clear that he only has to answer to the Board of Trustees."

The school is run by a small group of rather conservative men and one woman on the Board of Trustees. "They live up on Mt. Olympus," said Joyce. They hire and fire the administration rather frequently. There have been eight to nine headmasters in the last 15 years. Teacher turnover is high. In Bob's department, out of five teachers, one returns next year. The math department is all new.

### SPIES IN THE CLASSROOM

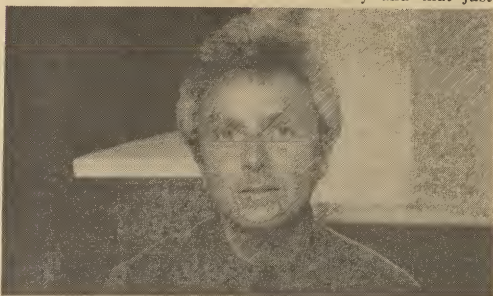
One member of the Board of Trustees told Bob Joyce that he thought it was another faculty member who wrote the letter. The letter said it was a parent. Many faculty members believe it



(Continued from previous page)

not respecting the students," Joyce said. "Again and again these people do not seem to understand that these young people are very bright and fiercely independent. They are capable of doing these things on their own. So anytime these kids do anything, from the walkout itself to the graduation address, there's got to be a real person behind it, an adult. They are such fools."

"The sad part is they [the students] didn't know about the letter or the threats to fire me. What I find upon reflection terribly disturbing is that a number of the people that I feel very betrayed by knew during the year what was happening to me. None of them went in collectively or as individuals and said, 'Hey, what are you doing challenging him about his politics, about his lifestyle?' No one said a word about these things. The students immediately find out [that I wasn't being hired] and boom, they explode. People who I thought were peers, my colleagues, friends, I'm a little surprised how easily they would bend."



Robert Joyce: "These are bad times; we don't make waves." (Photo: Rink)

Basically, it seems that as the tuition is so low, the parents will continue to send their children to Lick H.S. As the faculty is renewed year to year and the school is funded privately, the administration can do whatever they want. The school has over a \$30 million endowment, and their yearly budget doesn't go much higher than \$1 million. "They can afford to behave in their high-handed manner." There doesn't seem any way to rescind this. Joyce has tried the ACLU, a couple of labor commissions, and Matt Coles. No one can see anything that can be done."

Bob Joyce has not had much luck in looking for employment. He sounded out a few schools but doesn't think he will be teaching again soon. He submitted almost 100 resumes. The two main areas of interest have been working in a college dean's office in student relations and working as an aide to governmental offices. He very much enjoys politics. Bob would like to stay in San Francisco because of the Democratic convention in 1984. Replies have been mostly "Thank you very much for your interest. I'm so glad that they are so thankful for my interest," Joyce said laughing. Some of them are much nicer, and tell him how impressed they are with

his varied career.

## DON'T SAY FUCK

What will he do? "I don't know," he said. After finals he will devote all his time to getting a job. "That means a three-piece suit, cut my hair, and brush my teeth and don't say fuck. Go out and be proper and correct, acquiesce and cower and be as successfully employed people are!" he said facetiously. He admits that this situation and the publicity in the *Chronicle*, the *Examiner*, and on television may frighten some people off. "The advantage is people will know what they are getting and I can be whoever I am. That is rather important. Much of our lives we devote to labor. We do a great deal of compartmentalizing. Our labor is not our identity. Consequently we go to work and put on the masks and wear the suits and the dresses and say what we are supposed to say and behave as we are supposed to behave, and then god it's Friday or it's 5 o'clock. Then we can become whoever we think we are. And that's so sad because it's so true for so many and that just

does not like labels so he feels he never was "out" or "in." "I really have trouble being labeled anything. It's too damned convenient not only for yourself to put up these rigid borders to function in, but it's too damn easy for other people to deal with you since you allow that yes I am ABC, or whatever. Then people don't have to take the time to find out what is unique about you. There is no one like you on this planet. You sacrifice your uniqueness." He was open about his life to some of the faculty at school. "The unsigned letter said I was an admitted homosexual. My only response to that is that I have had trouble admitting that to myself, so I wasn't about to admit that to many other people or use the classroom as a sort of couch to bare my soul." He worked against the Briggs amendment because he felt it was irrelevant to teaching whether someone was Gay or not. "I just didn't feel it was then necessary to make some sort of strong statement having just campaigned on the idea that it was totally irrelevant. The only charge that was made that I would take offense to was being a drug dealer."

I noted he didn't seem very uncomfortable with this. "I'm not." The administration gave him a copy of the letter. He sent copies to friends. They called and said, "Oh, big deal." They didn't find anything offensive in the letter. "It speaks to the absurdity of this. I've never been afraid to move around and I've never had a need to possess things. I'm fearful they will possess me. I have wonderful friends. I'm confident that if I can't get the kind of job I want, I'll get a job to take care of me. I know I will. It's confidence. When you see the sadness, the truly vulnerable people right here in San Francisco, you can't feel sorry for yourself. I've been given too many advantages in life. Society by and large has treated me rather fairly in spite of this."

What bothers Bob is that if these stories of firings are reaching the public eye, how many others are there that are not publicized? How many people are being pressured not only because they are Gay, but because of their politics or their social demeanor? I asked him if he thought the Gay movement would now go the way of the Black and women's movements; that is, nowhere. He felt that when the economy was strong, those in charge felt they could afford to bring Blacks and women into the economic picture. "Now with all people who want to participate in the great white male heterosexual society, groups are not only being told there isn't enough room, but in addition they are made aware that they should not press. People are accepting this."

"These are bad times; we don't make waves. Everybody is accepting this, both those in charge and those not in charge."

M. Benzry

## NO LABELS FOR JOYCE

He wasn't less or more "out" in the East than he is here. Bob

# More Than \$83,000 Donated to L.A. AIDS Project

## Community Education and Patient Support Emphasized

The Board of Directors of the AIDS Project/Los Angeles has released a financial statement for the period dating from its beginning, November 1982, through May of this year. It shows that \$83,443 in donations was received and \$31,072 allocated for Project activities, primarily in the areas of community education and patient support.

The Board has voted to allocate approximately 70% of the \$53,370 remaining balance to hire a critically-needed social/case worker to assist patients and an additional staff person in the Project office.

The case worker, who will be paid approximately \$22,000, will work directly with people with AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) to help them obtain the financial aid and other benefits that are available from various government sources. The staff worker, who will be paid approximately \$15,000, will help alleviate the heavy workload in the office during the daytime hours.

"When the Project was organized in late 1982," commented Board Co-Chairperson Dr. Joel Weisman, "we felt that our primary responsibilities were to provide factual information to the community and offer services to support the needs of persons with AIDS. During the coming months, we will put increasing emphasis on research activities while still providing education and patient support services."

Donated funds have been used as follows: Education (39%); Patient Support (22%); Hotline (21%); Operational/Administrative (13%); and Research (5%). At present, only two Project staff members are salaried: Ervin Munro, Acting Executive Director, and Karen Klein, Administrative Assistant. More than 200 volunteers donate time to the Project.

Recently, more than \$4,300 was spent to produce the May 26 Candlelight March in Westwood. "This event drew nearly 8,000 participants," commented

Dr. Weisman, "and focused nation-wide attention on the need for additional funding for AIDS research."

Following is a breakdown of expenditures by category:

**Education (\$12,097)** - This includes the printing and nationwide distribution of more than 60,000 brochures that describe basic facts about AIDS, precautionary measures, and a list of symptoms. Video educational tapes and speakers are also available. To assist medical practitioners throughout the nation, the Project has also compiled an important reference booklet that includes a bibliography of more than 250 articles about AIDS that have appeared in periodicals throughout the United States and Europe.

**Patient Support (\$6,983)** - The Project operates ongoing support groups facilitated by trained psychologists and psychiatrists for persons with AIDS. Included in this area, legal and financial counseling is provided as well as home health services (Hospice), and the basic necessities of life, such as food and clothing.

**Hotline (\$6,430)** - More than 1,200 calls are received each month on the Hotline, (213) 871-AIDS, from individuals who think they have AIDS symptoms, including the "worried well." A staff of trained listeners, who have completed a minimum 10-week training course, is available to answer questions about AIDS and make referrals when indicated. The current three phone lines will be expanded in the near future, as well as operating hours. The Hotline is presently operating from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Operation/Administrative (\$4,109)** - This includes miscellaneous expenses, such as office supplies, postage, etc.

**Research (\$1,451)** - The research effort to date has been to work with the Red Cross and the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center to develop specific programs.

The Bay Area Reporter, San Francisco's largest and only weekly Gay newspaper, is available free from newspaper boxes at the following locations:

Kearny & Geary  
Kearny & Post  
Kearny & Sutter  
Kearny & Bush  
California & Montgomery  
California & Sansome  
California & Davis  
Sacramento & Front  
Sacramento & Battery  
Clay & Montgomery  
Clay & Sansome  
Jackson & Drumm, Safeway  
Columbus & Union

Ferry Building  
City Hall  
Federal Building  
Hall of Justice  
SP Train Depot  
Castro & 24th  
24th & Noe  
18th & Collingwood  
Portola/Woodside, Tower Mkt  
Fillmore & Chestnut  
Union & Fillmore  
Union & Van Ness  
Hyde & California, Cala

## National Gay Archives Seeks Funds for Card Catalog

The National Gay Archives & Barney/Carpenter Library houses the world's largest and best public access collection of Gay and Lesbian history. It includes religious theories, legal aspects, literature, and the flowering of Gay culture. The collection concerns itself also with materials on other minority perspectives: ethnic, religious, political, radical and reform groups, social change movements of all sorts. There are materials on the family and

gender roles, S&M, transvestism and transsexuality, the women's movement and women's history.

A fund drive with the initial goal of \$9,000 has been initiated by the NGA Board of Directors to coincide with Gay Pride Month, in order to begin the work of making this invaluable collection more accessible to scholars and interested persons throughout the world. The library committee has completed preliminary work and now needs working space, supplies, staff, and storage areas and equip-

## Parade Wrap-Up

The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee holds its July meeting this Sunday, July 10, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St.

An '83 wrap-up and financial report are on the agenda.

ment to begin this monumental task. Send tax-deductible contributions to Barney/Carpenter Library, 1654 N. Hudson Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90028.

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## READY OR NOT...

"The current outbreak of immune deficiency diseases represents an epidemic unprecedented in American medical history."  
— Dr. James Curran, Center for Disease Control

The Kaposi's Sarcoma Research and Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized in response to the outbreak in the Gay community of immune deficient diseases. The Foundation is dedicated to conducting or supporting efforts which accomplish the following:

### BASIC AND CLINICAL RESEARCH

Studying the spread of these diseases and bringing new research techniques to bear to investigate the factors which may be contributing to these diseases.

### PATIENT SERVICES

Assuring that adequate financial resources are available for necessary diagnosis and treatment.

### PATIENT SUPPORT

Coordinating appropriate referrals or provision of services for emotional and psychological support for Kaposi's and Pneumocystis patients.

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Educating the community at large in prevention and detection of these diseases. The Foundation works closely with other organizations and agencies in the Bay Area and around the country which are also making contributions to the study and elimination of these diseases which are also seeking to meet the needs of affected patients.

**PLEASE GIVE TODAY!** We need your participation and we need your financial support. — Marcus A. Conant, M.D., President

Your regular United Way donation can be channeled to The Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation by requesting a Donor Option Card and writing in Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation.

Enclosed is may tax deductible donation for: \$10 \$20 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other

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I'd like to volunteer to help. Please contact me. Please make your check payable to: The Kaposi Sarcoma Foundation, and return it with this form to P.O. Box 14227, San Francisco, CA 94114. (415) 864-4376.

## ON THE JOB: GAY PEOPLE AT WORK

### We are Everywhere

ARTHUR LAZERE, C.P.A.

It has been my privilege as an activist and as a journalist to meet a wide variety of Lesbian and Gay people who participate in our movement in diverse ways. Our diversity is part of our strength; we are connected every which way with our non-Gay counterparts — someone among us can communicate as a peer with virtually anyone in the non-Gay community.

Howard Wallace was one of the early pioneers in connecting the labor movement and the Gay rights movement. The product of a middle-class family in Denver, Colorado, Wallace's early idealism was, in part, a reaction to the racist and conservative views espoused by his father. During the McCarthy era, Howard, then a high school student, joined the American Civil Liberties Union and the United World Federalists. He was active in Black civil rights work in the 1950's and the anti-war movement of the 1960's. Making his living in warehouse work and truck driving, Howard was involved in organizing for the teamsters.

In 1971 Wallace came out and became active in Gay rights issues in San Francisco. As early as 1974 he was able to enlist labor support

for community picketing of ABC-TV, protesting an infamously homophobic episode of *Marcus Welby, M.D.* He was a founder of Bay Area Gay Liberation in 1975. In 1976 Wallace negotiated an agreement of mutual support between BAGL and a group of 22 local union leaders. The agreement called for union support of inclusion of Gay rights clauses in union contracts with employers. In exchange, BAGL offered the unions support in trying to defeat a number of anti-labor propositions on the San Francisco ballot that year.

Noting that women, Blacks, and Latinos all have caucuses within the labor movement, Wallace was a founder this year and is presently co-chair of the Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance. Seeking members among trade union people in the Bay Area, the Alliance is encouraging establishment of Gay caucuses within union locals. The Alliance seeks union support of Gay rights legislation, Gay rights clauses in union contracts along with enforcement of such clauses through grievance procedures, and openly Gay leadership within the union movement. The organization is also committed to helping Lesbian and Gay workers organize in the workplace.

Lesbian/Gay Labor Alliance; 240 Golden Gate Avenue; San Francisco, CA 94102

★ ★ ★

For many American Gays, Australia is interesting because it has exported Joan Sutherland and a remarkable number of hunky leathermen. I met recently with Ray Israel, who is President of the Gay Business Association (New South Wales), a two-year-old Sydney organization with about fifty members, including ten Lesbians. Israel, 40, is in the retail carpeting business. The goals of the Gay Business Association are similar to those of our business groups in the United States, although the Sydney group has not yet been involved in Gay rights efforts as have many American business groups.

In the Australian states of South Australia and Victoria, sexual acts between consenting adults are legal. In New South Wales, however, homosexual acts between two men are punishable by 14 years in prison. Despite that retrograde law, New South Wales also has strong legislation protecting Gays from discrimination in employment and housing. What an extraordinary contradiction! Israel told me that despite the nondiscrimination law, the closets are as pervasive in Sydney as they are in the United States. Still, Sydney's Oxford Street is "as busy as Castro Street" and Sydney has three regularly published Gay newspapers. If you are headed for "down under," your inquiries will be welcome.

Gay Business Association (NSW); Box 41; Paddington, New South Wales, Australia

## GUEST COLUMN

### Parsonage Defends Bishop

by Bill Lowe

Against better judgment I am nonetheless compelled to rattle my chains after reading the "Guest Column" in the June 2nd edition of the *B.A.R.* containing a reprint of Fr. Robert Cromey's letter to Bishop Wm. E. Swing (Episcopal).

A cursory reading might well lead one to believe that the Bishop 1) is alone to blame for all past and present "sins" of the Church; 2) with his awesome authority, by donning cope and mitre, sitting on the cathedra and magically waving his crozier, can change by episcopal fiat the 2,000-year old theological infrastructure of the Church; and, 3) is the antagonist in every issue raised by Fr. Cromey (presumably the protagonist). Piffle! Poppycock! Balderdash!

Many of Fr. C's points are well taken; it is the bias with which they are offered that gives me pause. Now Fr. C. is known for his "Anger Workshops" and is considered an authority on the subject by some. How am I to reconcile that fact with the graphic, aggressive and angry rhetoric that, to me, bespeaks an agenda larger than the Gay/Lesbian issues he stonewalls? Perhaps Fr. C. really intended to send the letter to the Archbishop?

Episcopal priests can speak with great freedom, a freedom that carries great responsibility. By accident or intent, the letter appears to bring the integrity of the Bishop into question. That, so it seems to me, is irresponsible. It is amusing to conjecture: were Fr. C. a Roman priest, he no doubt would have been "silenced" long ago and whisked away in the dark of night to a remote New Mexico mission, there to contemplate his grievously naughty errors. Come on, Fr. C.! Whose side are you on? Bishop Swing is the advocate, not the enemy!

Let me report here, Bishop Swing in those discussions with Mayor Feinstein on the "Domestic Partners" ordinance stated he was aware of the admirable level of caring and mutual help abiding in our relationships and that this somehow deserves to be recognized. He stood alone among the clergy advising the mayor on this point. This again was the case when he recommended rebuilding the bill so as to respect our rights and our relationships without insinuating a new definition of marriage, the very semantic stumbling block of all clergy present.

### Bishop Swing is the advocate, not the enemy

Late in 1982, Bishop Swing charged the Diocesan Commission on Liturgy to develop a sound theological basis and a ceremony for honoring and blessing relationships, heterosexual and homosexual, outside the church's traditional concept of marriage. Kevin Gordon of the R.C. Task Force on G/L Issues and John Boswell, author of the book "Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality", will participate in an advisory capacity. Results will be considered next spring.

Now the Parsons are not simple, compliant, naturally biased pawns of the Bishop. On the contrary, we do our own thinking and speaking. The Bishop from the onset has challenged us to "be", to explore and discover our uniqueness and diversity and to exercise these gifts in the Church and society. The Parsonage is not a place, it is a movement of Gay men, Lesbian women and our heterosexual friends, all with a mission to foster dialogue, education, re-

conciliation and, most importantly, integration . . . hopefully in all churches.

What is quickly won is usually not worth the winning and, furthermore, is suspect. We don't need anyone to abridge that vital educational process so essential to a meaningful and effectively complete integration. We all need that process, Church and Gay/Lesbian folk alike. We aren't trying to get into the Church; we are there already in abundant and impressive numbers, evident to all who care to look. We are a mission OF, BY and WITHIN the Church. The name of the game is "integration." Anger with the Bishop, impatience with the Church and a need for quick solutions simply won't cut the cake. This is 1983, not 1964!

Our self-esteem was hard to come by. It takes years to extricate oneself from victimhood. It takes loving support, not good ideas and ready answers from someone else. We want to discover our own answers, make our own choices, be allowed to make our own mistakes and arrive at our own solutions. Please, Fr. C., stop trying to rescue us!

Unfortunately an angry gospel attracts those caught up in anger, one reinforcing the other in an unending cycle. Perceptions are filtered through and clouded by angry preconceptions. Objectivity gives way to the "hype" of and addiction to that anger. Even worse, the issues and innate anger of any minority are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. We need to be calm and reasonable. More often than not, the enemy is within each of us. A Trinity bias or a Parsonage bias serves the purpose of no one. Hopefully, we are all on the same team.

Last Saturday and Sunday Grace Cathedral was the site of a 24-hour "Festival of Prayer." It was the launching of Lesbian/Gay Pride Week. The cathedral was made available to us without charge, thanks to Bishop Swing, Dean Gillespie and the Chapter. That, it seems to me, is a big statement. ■



# GREATER BAY NEWS

AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMONT

## OAKLAND

### Prizes and Pride

#### RADIANT RETINUE (A Sore-Footed Nose?)

The only bad thing about being in a parade is that you can't see the parade! Such was the case when yours truly proudly paraded with the Oakland float, Sunday, June 26.

To recap, if you will remember, not one single entry was submitted for the float design; a committee of seven brainstormed and came up with something suitable for the theme; that same committee cussed and discussed and revamped the design several times; workable blueprints were drawn up and materials purchased; last minute necessary construction changes didn't alter the theme of the float even though a color change had to be made; many hands contributed to the completion of the float, but if it weren't for Jim Brendon there wouldn't have been any float. In all honesty, it was 99 44/100's percent Jim's float!

The gray early dawn on Spear Street was witness to six sleepy but eager people (Jim, John of Bench and Bar, Trisha, Cheryl, Nez and spouse) putting the finishing touches — fluff? — to the creation. Lady Johnnie, Randy, and another Cheryl covered the last of the painting holidays while the rest of us added the skirt, lettering, netting, etc.

Throughout all this, we were wondering — and worrying — about the humongous amounts of sound equipment being loaded onto the small pickup bed. A flattening tire and lots of shouting finally convinced Chris to remove some of the tonnage!

The Pom Pons and Marching Corps arrived, and so did the Raw Rahs. The sound equipment was tuned up and final rehearsals practiced to the enjoyment of all who had gathered to participate in the parade.

Dykes On Bikes varoomed out to mark the start of the parade just as our flattening tire was reinflated in the nick of time. The contingencies were positioned and we eagerly awaited our turn. Because of the heaviness of the sound equipment, it was necessary to use Trisha and Cheryl on the rear of the float as ballast! I was positioned behind the float, directly in front of John's fire engine siren!

At last we began to move, and I could catch glimpses of the Pom Pons marching a little smarter, strutting a little prouder, kicking a little higher, and performing a little more spirited as the audience began to applaud their routines. And the applause continued — along with many oohs and aahs and photographs — when our float passed by. Thirteen bright pink triangles, graduating from two feet to eight feet high, floated on a bed of clouds while the symbol of the parade hung in the middle of the final and largest triangle. The black skirts on the sides held the letters spelling OAKLAND, while the entire theme was spelled out on the back — Strengthen the ties, break the chains.

Half way down Market, the trailer became disengaged from the pickup, so Trisha had to move her ballast to the front to ensure a secure connection. I was able to take her place and ride the remaining way!

There was some bit of confusion as to an awarded prize, but a call to one of the judges, Dick Kramer, cleared up the tumult — and, by golly — Oakland's float won Best Out Of Town Award! Somehow, all the heartaches and headaches were all worth it. It was agreed by the committee that Jim should have the banner. Because without him, there wouldn't have been any float!

Congratulations to Stockton

for winning best of theme, Raw Rahs for winning best marching team, and to Hayward for the Grand Prize. All in all, everyone did themselves very proud that day!

#### CAROM ET MASSE (An Updating Nose)

Little Mother, Foxy Lady IV, is having yet another auction for AIDS/KS at Revol on Monday, July 18, 7 p.m. Call her at Berry's, 832-9116 or at home, 430-1343 and she will make arrangements to pick up your donations. As a reminder, there will be a "special presentation" given to her than night. My spies tell me that it is bigger than she is! It will be well worth the wait . . . weight?

It's not too early to start planning for "Stepping Out On The Bay," a black tie formal affair presented by Man2Man Production. Love Cruise '83 will be on Sunday, August 21, at 6 p.m. The three hours on the bay will feature a hosted bar, buffet, entertainment, selection of Mr./Ms. Love Cruise '83, and lots of fun. There is a limited capacity, so to reserve your passport to Love, phone 444-7860. Boarding passes are \$30 each.

The East Bay Pool Tournament took the 4th of July weekend off, and there are only two more rounds to go. Monday, July 11, will match up like this: Lake Lounge at White Horse, Revol at Big Mama's, Ollie's at Turf Club, and Driftwood at Inbetween.

Thus far in the tournament, the standings are:

	WON	LOST
1. White Horse	136	56
2. Revol	123	69
3. Turf Club	100	92
4. Ollie's	100	92
5. Inbetween	98	94
6. Big Mama's	92	100
7. Lake Lounge	68	124
8. Driftwood	51	139

The weekend opening celebrations of "Town & Country" was a lot of fun, to say the least! This newest of Oakland's pubs promises to be a welcomed addition. At the corner of Telegraph and 20th, they will be serving lunches Mondays through Fridays, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Drop in and bid your welcome to Sam and Marvin. They're very nice guys that you'll enjoy knowing . . . and patronizing!

If Queen of Hearts V, Cathy, is still having her "Gong Show," shouldn't there be some advertising around town? It's scheduled for Sunday, July 24 . . . that's only two weeks away!

Good leaders are scarce, so I'm following myself! And still smiling! Love, Nez.



Award Winner. With ballast fore and aft, the Oakland float visualized the Parade theme, "Strengthen the Ties . . . Break the Chains," in three-dimensional terms. (Photo: Rink)

"A MAN'S BAR"

## BOOT RACK

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SAN JOSE, CA

THE  
HUB

## THE HUB

Attitude Adjustment Hours: M-F 4-7  
Sunday A.A. Hours: 3-7  
85¢ Well Drinks  
New Saturday Hours: 6PM-2AM

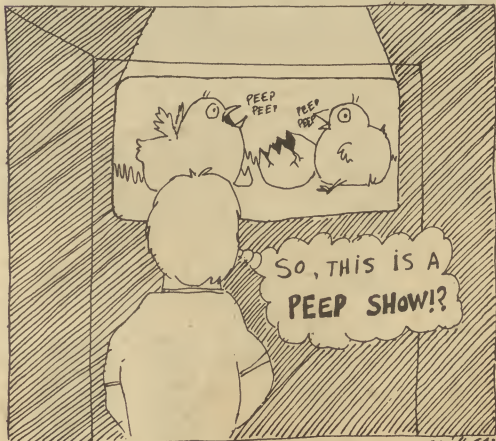
## JOCKEY SHORTS DANCE CONTEST FINALS

Monday, July 18, 9PM  
\$100 1st Prize

1220 Pine Street  
Next to the 7-11 Store

938-4550  
Walnut Creek

Take Highway 24 to Walnut Creek (which turns into 680), Ygnacio Valley Road offramp . . . right for 5 stop lights, then left on Civic



## THE WHITE HORSE

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Schnapps 75¢

Every Sunday Noon to 8pm

Sunday, July 24, 8pm

Live "Pure Honey"



TELEGRAPH & 66TH . . . BERKELEY





The Gay and Lesbian Union was well represented in the Gay Freedom Day Parade. (Photo: Rink)

## Gay Democrats Meet

The next meeting of the EBL/GDC will focus on what can be done to gain support for AB 1 in the State Senate. The meeting will begin with a potluck dinner at 7 p.m. at the West Branch of the Berkeley Library, 1125 University, Sunday evening, July 10. Call 849-3983 for further information. ■



San Jose's Billy DeFrank Community Center volunteers manned an information and refreshment booth at San Francisco's Parade rally. (Photo: Rink)

## Berkeley Mayor Joins Gay Celebration

Berkeley Mayor Eugene "Gus" Newport rode with the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club contingent in the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade on Sunday, June 26. This marks the fourth time that Mayor Newport has taken part in the parade, the only mayor to do so. Newport received tremendous applause and cheers of approval from the crowd lining Market Street. Also heard were shouts of "Where's Dianne?"

"We're pleased and honored to have Mayor Gus Newport join us," said Armand Boulay, president of the EBL/GDC. "We are especially proud that an East Bay Mayor has been the only mayor to be in the parade."

Newport is a member of the AIDS Task Force of the U.S. Conference of Mayors and spoke in favor of that group lobbying



Politics on Parade. Berkeley Mayor Gus Newport supported Bay Area Gays by sending a representative to the Berkeley event he was unable to attend, and appearing himself in San Francisco.

for additional funding. Just returned from the World Peace Conference in Prague, Newport could not attend the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Day Celebration, but Berkeley City Councilmember Veronika Fukson spoke on

his behalf. Oakland City Councilmembers Wilson Riles, Jr. and Marge Gibson also attended the East Bay event. Riles pledged support for an Oakland fair employment ordinance for city employees. ■

## Gay Business Seminars

A series of evening seminars for the Lesbian and Gay business owner will be held throughout the summer months by The Amesbury Agency, a Lesbian-owned marketing and consulting firm.

The seminars will focus on the problems and solutions of advertising for the small business. Topics include: how to get the most from your advertising dollar, designing an ad budget, and how to design and write an effective ad. ■

The seminars will be offered throughout the summer months at the Amesbury offices in downtown San Francisco. They will be conducted by Teisa Lynn, a Harvard MBA with broad experience in small business advertising. There is a nominal fee of \$20 per person; this includes materials and refreshments. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. For reservations or further information, call 441-3080. ■

## Diablo Rap

"Gay Fathers" will be the subject for informal discussion at the weekly Rap Support Group on July 15. The group meets at the Diablo Valley Community Center, 1818 Colfax in Concord, at 8 p.m. each Friday. Info: 674-0171. ■

## 73rd Ave Baths Quits

Wednesday, July 6 will be the last day of business for the once popular 73rd Avenue Baths. After being in business for several years, building a clientele in a difficult area of Oakland, business has dropped over 50% as a result of a growing AIDS consciousness. ■

## BOOK RACK

### The Crass Menagerie

Tennessee Williams: An Intimate Biography  
By Dakin Williams and Shepherd Mead  
Arbor House; \$16.95

by Frank J. Howell

"I'd rather be in a flop by Tennessee Williams, whom I consider to be the world's greatest living playwright, than in a hit by a shit." — Anthony Quinn

What a magical evening it was in 1976 when we beheld the old lion himself at the American Conservatory Theatre presentation, "An Evening with Tennessee Williams." There were excerpts from his plays, including his then current effort, *This Is (An Entertainment)*. This was followed by a lively question and answer session. A brash young buck in the balcony hollered, "Why don't you do more for the Gay rights movement, Mr. Williams?" The audience groaned with annoyance. Tennessee's answer was well-spoken. "How do you know I haven't?" he replied casually.

At that time Tennessee was just beginning to explore his

homosexuality in an overt fashion. He spilled many beans in his *Memoirs*, and one of his later works, *Small Craft Warnings*, explored Gay life — alas, negatively — in a fair amount of depth.

Frank Merlo was his lover for many years, but when he died of lung cancer in the early '60s, Williams plunged into a dark night of the soul. He abused drugs and was forcibly hospitalized for a brief time by his younger brother, Dakin. But in the '70s he rose like a phoenix from the ashes, as Tennessee himself might express the sentiment.

In 1975, the literary lion came

out of his genteel closet with the publication of his informal *Memoirs* which sold widely. He always stood solidly in the Gay camp (pun probably intended) and refused to feel any shame in his later years. At one time Williams was undergoing psychoanalysis under the guidance of Dr. Lawrence Kube. When Kube urged him to switch to heterosexuality, the therapy was immediately terminated.

In addition to *Small Craft Warnings*, Williams also wrote a short story about two Lesbians, "Happy August The 10th." (This was published in *The Best American Short Stories of 1973*, edited by Martha Foley.)

Over the years, a number of books have been published about Williams, but have frequently covered only certain aspects of his life or have been the memories of certain friends and relatives. (His mother, Edwina, wrote *Remember Me To Tom* in 1963.)

The current effort by brother Dakin and Shepherd Mead (*How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*) contains numerous revelations and much chatty gossip, as well as a number of factual errors. The authors tend to repeat themselves. Some judicious editing

seems in order.

Once again a member of the Williams clan attempts to relate his side of the family chronicle. Both Williams' friends and enemies feel the need to correct the "faulty" memory of Mr. Williams and Williams was emphatic in viewing his brother Dakin as "the enemy."

I have a hunch this is one of those "as told to" memoirs. Brother Dakin, currently an attorney in Collinsville, Illinois, no doubt related events to Mead,

who did the actual writing.

But we've had enough of this backroom chit-chat. We need a scholarly, objective appraisal of Tennessee Williams and his work.

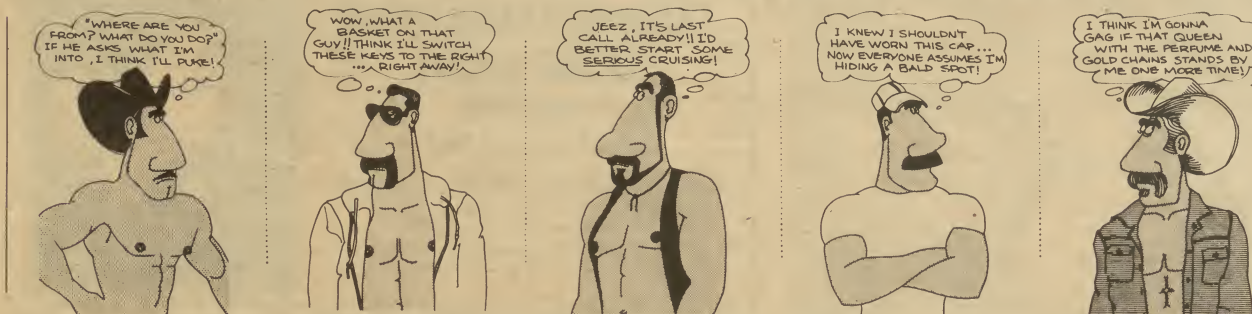
In the meantime we have Dakin Williams' attempt to cash in on the name he shared with his brother. Tennessee would no doubt be furious, but Dakin and Mead have filled in a few more pieces of the portrait. Now we await, with even greater anticipation, the final summation. ■



Acting as buffer zone, mother Edwina Williams stands between her sons Tennessee (r.) and Dakin, whom the playwright disliked intensely.

## BARettes

by L.J. Hughes





# BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

## HUMOR

*Tongue in Cheek Department*

## NAME DROPPING:

*Great Encounters with Famous Gays,  
Gay Encounters with Famous Greats,  
And A Little of Neither*

by Mike Hippler

One of my best friends is an insufferable name dropper. "You'll never guess who came to my party in Los Angeles," he informed me breathlessly last week. "Christopher Reeve!" When things get dull, he inquires, "Did I ever tell you that my roommate's cousin once had an affair with Richard Gere?" Or in the middle of a conversation he casually lets drop, "Gore Vidal told me at a meeting of my college literary club in 1971 that I had great promise as a writer. Gore is so sweet." It doesn't matter that he has told me all this before. It doesn't even matter if I care. My friend is a compulsive name dropper and will try to impress me anyway.

I don't know why people try to link themselves with the high and mighty in this way. Perhaps it's because by doing so they give some weight and meaning to their insignificant lives. Perhaps they enjoy basking in the warmth of someone else's aura. All I know is that I've certainly never had to stoop so low to attract attention. I've never had to resort to name dropping in order to gain by association the fame and power that I have never been able to achieve for myself.

However, it just so happens that I do know some rather well-known people. Maybe I'm not exactly an intimate friend of these people, but I *have* met them. And while I wouldn't dream of trying to impress readers by describing these, oh, these unique and fascinating acquaintances — people you would just die to know, people who would turn your best friends green with envy — I just thought you might enjoy hearing a little about how I came to meet them — purely as an educational and entertainment experience, of course. I therefore present for the unbounded pleasure of all concerned "Great Encounters with Famous Gays, Gay Encounters with Famous Greats, and (as it says above) A Little of Neither."

### SHOW PEOPLE

*Paul Lynde*

Mr. Lynde and I were never formally introduced (and alas, due to his untimely death — which, despite vicious rumours, was not caused by the bottle of poppers found by his bed — now we never shall be), but I did speak to him at the third anniversary of Studio One in Los Angeles several years ago. He asked me, "Which way is the bathroom?" and I gladly pointed it out for him. Unfortunately, time did not permit a lengthier conversation, but despite the brief amount of time we had together, Paul was smitten. When I watched Hollywood Squares on T.V. the following Monday and saw him smile right at me, I was convinced of it.

*Robin Williams*

I met Robin Williams when I waited on him once at Castro Gardens Restaurant. I couldn't tell if he was Gay or not. A friend of a friend of a friend of his (who should know) assures me that he is straight (and besides, he is married), but I've always had my doubts. Anyone who roomed with Christopher Reeve in New York just has to be Gay, right? Anyway, Robin was very nice — he was so nice I was convinced he was cruising me —

and I couldn't resist asking for his autograph on the bottom of his check receipt. "I think you're great," I said. Tactfully, I continued, "I even liked Popeye, and God knows, I was one of the few around here who did." Robin was too drunk to notice my faux pas. "Scenery is here wish I was beautiful," he wrote, which, if transposed, makes some sense. But not much.

*Lily Tomlin*

Lily Tomlin is another I waited on at Castro Gardens. With her dark glasses and all, she looked so incognito that I almost didn't recognize her, so I said, "Honey, if you aren't Lily Tomlin you ought to be, for you look exactly like her." Her friends assured me that it was her. Gasp. I wanted to tell her that we both had worked at Howard Johnson's, but her sojourn there was the end of her waiting career while it was the beginning of mine, and I didn't think she would appreciate the connection. So instead I asked, "How's the chicken salad?" (The Gay angle here? You figure it out. If you don't know already, ask a friend who Jane Wagner is.)

*Tab Hunter*

I never met Tab Hunter. I never even saw him in person.



*A Drop That Doesn't Fall Far. Drop Tab Hunter's name (he's on the right) and see how far it gets you. Here he is in his last movie role with Divine — a name not dropped here at all.*

But a friend took a shower with him once, and every time I go over to my friend Russell's and ring the buzzer, I pretend to be him. Doesn't that count for something?

### DANCERS

*Rudolph Nureyev*

I got the chance to meet one of the idols of my youth when Nureyev came to Los Angeles (where I was living) with the Na-



*Triple Score. If you're clever you can drop Oscar Wilde's name (above) and fit in Alfred Douglas and Sam Steward.*

tional Ballet of Canada in 1977. Several "supers" (or dance extras) were needed for Swan Lake and I was asked to be one, so for five nights running I got to dance with Nureyev at the Greek Theater. Actually, all I got to do was walk downstage with a ballerina on my arm and bow three times, but at least I got to put on make-up and wear flaming purple tights, and I did get to watch Nureyev dance on onstage.

Nureyev was an outrageous camp when he wanted to be, and he went to no pains to hide his sexual orientation. I'll always remember his turning to the supers one night while the audience was wildly applauding him and saying, "Which of my pretty boys wants to go in the bushes with Rudy, hmmm?" I would gladly have volunteered, but amazingly enough he never gave me the opportunity. He did, however, invite a friend of mine into his private dressing room to use his phone, and guess what? There was no phone. A juicy tidbit, non?

*Mikhail Baryshnikov*

Baryshnikov, unfortunately, I



*The Incredible Shrinking Reputation. Hard-working, politically conscious to a degree, funny — Lily Tomlin's is a name worth dropping . . . and dishing.*

did not dance with. I waited on him instead at the Castle Grand Restaurant on Folsom Street. He is not Gay and paid no attention to me. The most romantic thing he said to me all night, in fact, was, "The check, please." (No, maybe it was, "How are the escargots?") That did not prevent me from lusting after him anyway. I've always been a little in love with Misha. Do you think he noticed we have the same first name? Do ya, huh, do ya?

*Ronald Reagan, Jr.*

Shortly after I left New York City and the Joffrey Ballet School where I was a scholarship student (but only partial), Ronald Reagan Jr. made national headlines by joining the Joffrey II company. He therefore took classes (sometimes) in the exact same rooms in which I studied. But that's not the connection. About a year later, when I returned to New York from San Francisco for a visit, I was walking by the Joffrey School one night and thought I recognized someone I knew talking with a friend on the sidewalk. He was obviously a dancer and was even more obviously Gay, so I figured I had to know him, even though I couldn't place the name. But as I advanced to say hi, two burly figures emerged from the shadows to head me off. "Whoops!" I said to myself. "Secret Service men. Which means that must be R.R. Jr." It was a natural mistake to make. Which of us who has ever experienced life in the closet doesn't feel that we know R.R. Jr. intimately? (Apologies to the irate reader who once berated me for making fun of R.R. Jr. by casting aspersions on his heterosexuality "just because he's a ballet dancer." I'm only teasing, he's big enough to take it. At any rate, so I've heard. But then, aren't we all?)

### POLITICIANS

*Lester Maddox*

If you're not from Georgia, you may not know who Lester Maddox is, but he is a famous ex-governor of that state who

first gained national notoriety by closing his restaurant, the Pickrick, rather than serve Blacks in the early 60's. I shook his hand once — I had to — when he visited the school I was attending in Macon, Ga. for the summer of 1969. "You've got a fine smile, boy," he told me. "Mighty fine." Do you think he was trying to pick me up? (I also met Jimmy Carter, another ex-governor from Georgia, the same summer, but as the Gay connection here is even less tenuous than that with Maddox, I won't mention it. I won't mention either that my father's best friend was Carter's roommate in college. No, I won't mention it.)

### WRITERS

*Armistead Maupin*

One of San Francisco's best known Gay writers, whom I met when I heard Christopher Isherwood speak at Nourse Auditorium one night, not only went to the same high school as my brother-in-law in Raleigh, N.C. but also is the ex-boyfriend of one of my ex-tricks. (Documentation available upon request.) I bet if you get right down to it, nearly every faggot in San Francisco is sexually acquainted, if not at first hand, then once removed, or twice at the most.

*Oscar Wilde*

How is it possible? Can I really have met the legendary Oscar? Well, no, but I did meet Sam Steward once, renowned tattooist, pornographer, and self-confessed literary groupie, and he gave a blow-job in 1937 to Lord Alfred Douglas, Wilde's boyfriend, so there is some connection — a tenuous one, but what does that matter? When dropping names, it's the impression that counts, nothing else.

### OTHERS

Oh God, I could go on and on, but I have a date with Mel Gibson, and he's due any minute. Or is it Kevin Kline? It's so hard to keep them all from showing up on the same night . . . ■



## Night Litanies

Neither of the creators of Nocturnes can tell you what it is. One of them, choreographer Christopher Beck, will tell you "it's intense; it's exciting." The other, author and playwright Robert Chesley, is a bit more demure with his adjectives, but has obviously been as stimulated by the collaboration as his partner, and pleased with the result. But that still doesn't say what it is and the two men jostled with each other over their personal reactions to the work while describing it to The Bay Area Reporter.

The key to the one hour piece seems to be in its introduction. "Though we lie together, each dreamer dreams alone. Though I am by your side, body to body . . . I am a stranger in the night city. I rediscover a door I had

forgotten. A door that was not there . . .

There is a door in the cage of my ribs." This takes us into our dreams, into ourselves. Thirteen dream explorations follow, hence the night-title Nocturnes. The cast of six male dancers use speech, movement, images and dramatic action to explore various Gay emotions and questions of sexuality, aging and communication.

"544 Natoma, where Nocturnes will be presented, has a night feeling which compliments our mood," said Beck. "The night incubates the imagination, the dark feelings."

"It's important to look at the dark side, so that your life can develop," said Beck. "The piece is a challenge to people."

"But it has comforting sections," offers the peaceful Chesley.

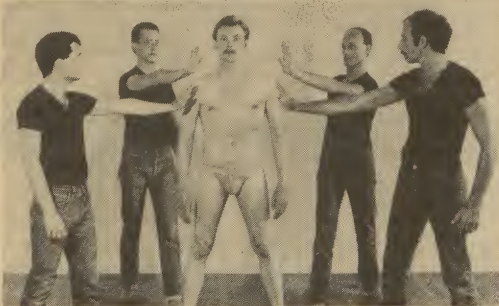
"But many people have trouble with tenderness," counters Beck.

"It has no plot line," says Beck of the work which most conveniently could be called a performance piece. "It's a dream sequence, a blending of emotions. I resist describing things. I'd rather people experienced it. I think of it as poetry . . ."

"They are litanies," interjects Chesley.

" . . . not because of how it was written, but how it's used. It's not expository. Robert and I discussed things we were struggling with, and realized those in movement, in theatrical terms. The words resulted during that process, not before it."

There are erotic sections, silent sections, and "music" provided by the cast, who hum, speak and provide percussive sounds with their bodies. There



The cast of the Beck/Chesley collaboration, NOCTURNES, rehearse the black and purple text of the Gay "night litanies." (Photo: M.I. Chester)

is bondage, used as an image of difficulty in communication, and an intense solo dealing with self-mutilation. "The movements convey anger and frustration," explains Beck.

"The men watching whisper ghastly, hideous things," says Chesley.

"It's not hideous at all," objects Beck. "It's so right for the performance. It produces a grip-

ping terror. It's a black and purple text."

Night litanies of terror and tenderness, dance and drama, dreams of Gay life created expressly for a gay audience — Nocturnes. ■

Nocturnes will be performed at 544 Natoma Performance Gallery July 7-9 and 14-16 at 8:30 p.m. Donation is \$5. The script/poems will be sold at the performances. Info: 621-2683.

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## They Were Here All Along

The current issue of The Advocate features an expansive section on San Francisco. Where did its editor turn for informed and entertaining articles on different aspects of our Gay life? To the staff of the Bay Area Reporter.

An introductory article explores "A Lavender Weave in the Social Fabric" of San Francisco. This overview is followed by concentrated articles that zero in on exact elements of Gay life in the city. These quick takes cover a lot of ground, and five of them have been written by writers you'll find every week in the Bay Area Reporter.

"From Fifth Position" columnist Keith White looks at Dance and finds a definite Gay aesthetic, as well as companies to express it and homophobes to oppose it.

Karl Stewart, author of the weekly "Knights in Black Leather," surveys the city's leather pioneers, their dark origins, flourishing heyday and

current hangouts. He finds a rich assortment of art, music and brotherhood to complement the usual leather stereotypes among the Men in Black.

Sue Zemel, who writes for and about the women's community for the Bay Area Reporter, explores "Music Making From The Third World," revealing a wealth of enjoyment in the contributions of multi-ethnic and women's groups.

"Tessi Tura" opera columnist George Heymont interviews the sassy Miss Tura for a scorching look at just how Gay the opera can be. Mr. Heymont is also featured in the July issue of Opera News, with a cover story on rising star Ellen Shade.

Finally, Entertainment Editor John F. Karr looks inside our cabarets to expose both the lie and the truth about the city's national reputation as a cabaret capitol.

When you want to know what's going on in San Francisco, you've just got to read The Bay Area Reporter. ■

## From Castro to Christopher

Photography by Nicholas Blair



A Couple of Couples. Gay Freedom Day brings out embracers of all descriptions.



# GayWHOGayWHATGayWHEREGay

## China by Bike

On October 1, 1983, the world's first all Gay bicycle tour will depart for Mainland China. Among the list of enthusiastic cyclists are Gay people of all ages, professions and levels of cycling ability.

"Anyone in reasonably good shape with a spirit of adventure can make the journey." Says Peter Greene, owner of China Bike Tours.

Greene recently moved to San Francisco from Boulder, Colorado where he has been operating bicycle tours to Mainland China for three years. This is the first time he has advertised for an exclusively Gay trip. The response to the October tour has been tremendous.

"Gay people from all over the country and as far away as England have been signing up for this historic trip. Most of them are not hard core cyclists. They just think this is a fantastic way to see China, a country that had previously been closed to tourism for many years."

The tour itself is not rigorous. The average day of cycling is about 30 miles. The tour begins in Hong Kong. The group then ferries across to the Portuguese territory of Macau. From Macau, the cyclists enter China through the Macau/China archway gates. The next fourteen days are a leisurely cycling trip along the Pearl River to Canton, China's city of flowers. Stops include the birthplace of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, overnight at an exclusive hot springs resort, visits to Daoists temples as well as the Chinese communes that line the roadside of the route to Canton. A "sag" wagon trails behind the group carrying spare bike parts, medical supplies, luggage as well as "weary bikers". Meals range from roadside picnics to seven

course banquets with Peking duck.

"China gives us the best they have to offer in any given place," says Greene. "In some of the more remote places it's a real adventure into a completely different culture and standard of living. There's so much joy in these curious people and that is what one remembers most."

After 16 days, the group leaves their bicycles in Canton and flies to Peking for a 4 day extension on the tour. Sightseeing to the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, Ming Tombs and Chinese Opera are all included.



Bicycling through the Macau-China border.

Included in the tour are optional stops in Taiwan, Japan and Honolulu. The trip spans 22 days with a cost of \$3,275.00 inclusive of airfare, accommodations, meals, guides, visas, sightseeing, and the Peking extension.

"The Chinese are interested in promoting tourism and warmly open their doors to anyone who wants to visit," says Greene. "Many Gay people have been to China before, and most travelers have a sense of diplomacy... In any case, the Chinese seem to respect a person's right to privacy. We shall see. It's going to be a very interesting tour in many ways..."

For information and reservations, write China Bike Tours, Box 14373, San Francisco, CA 94114 or call (415) 552-4231.

## FILM CLIPS

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY AND STEVE WARREN

### A Star Is (Re)Born

When Judy Garland's eagerly awaited "comeback" film *A Star Is Born* was released in 1954 it was a three-hour roadshow version. But for the later general release studio head Jack Warner spitefully clipped more than a half hour of the musical drama as a way of showing Garland just who was boss and who was the star that made the film go over budget.

The clipped footage included two musical numbers and a dozen dialogue sequences.



Towering Musical Star, Uncut, Out Only. A half-hour of previously cut footage is the key to the one-night benefit screening of *A STAR IS BORN* at the Paramount.

Whatever happened to that precious Garland footage? It's been film fan's Holy Grail. Most industry wags suspect that it was dutifully discarded as was the norm in those days. Others never gave up hope.

Ron Haver, film director of the L.A. County Museum and author of the sumptuous book *David O. Selznick's Hollywood* had a hunch he could find the lost half hour. He spent months meticulously tracking down the footage. Everybody said it was a lost cause.

On July 16, at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, we'll get that rare opportunity to see that in Hollywood dreams do come true.

Haver found the footage, and the complete *A Star Is Born* will be shown in its original 3-hour roadshow version, complete with stereophonic soundtrack. The single screening will be a benefit for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences program which salvages films that are being lost due to neglect.

Here will be Judy singing "Here's What I'm Here For," "Lose That Long Face," and acting in nine scenes that were cut.

There will be only one screening in the Bay area as the film makes a cross country tour. The possibility of regular screenings at a later date is still being discussed at Warner Bros. studios.

Tickets for the event are available from the Paramount box office, BASS, and by phone at 465-6400.

M. Lasky

## "INGMAR BERGMAN'S THANK-YOU NOTE TO THE WORLD... SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE."

DAVID ANSEN, NEWSWEEK

"A MASTERPIECE. SOMETHING OF A MIRACLE... LUSH, LAVISH, ROMANTIC, DEEPLY SATISFYING, JOYFUL AND ENCHANTING. THE MOST EXTRAORDINARY FILM I'VE SEEN IN 1983."

REX REED, NEW YORK POST

"EVERY SINGLE FRAME IS A WORK OF ART. ALL THAT YOU EVER LOVED IN AN INGMAR BERGMAN FILM IS HERE... HIS VERY BEST. A MASTERPIECE."

JUDITH CRIST, WORLTV

"MAGIC... OVERFLOWING WITH LOVE AND HOPE."

ANDREW SARRIS, THE VILLAGE VOICE

"MAGICAL, MAGNIFICENT, A MASTERPIECE."

BERNARD DREW, GANNETT NEWSPAPERS



"MOVIEGOERS CAN BE GRATEFUL THE FORCE IS STILL WITH INGMAR BERGMAN."

RICHARD CORLISS, TIME MAGAZINE

"★★★★ HIGHEST RATING. A JOY TO EXPERIENCE THAT ONE WISHES WOULD LAST FOREVER."

KATHLEEN CARROLL, NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

"MORE WELCOME THAN A SPACESHIP JAMMED FULL OF JEDI'S IS THE RETURN OF INGMAR BERGMAN AND HIS ASTONISHING 'FANNY & ALEXANDER'."

GUY FLATLEY, COSMOPOLITAN

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LEONARD MALIN, ENTERTAINMENT TONIGHT

Written and Directed by INGMAR BERGMAN Executive Producer JORN DONNER

Director of Photography SVEN NYKVIST, A.S.C.

PERNILLA ALLWIN as Fanny BERTIL GUVÉ as Alexander

EWA FRÖLING, ERLAND JOSEFSSON, JAN MALMISJO, GUNN WALLGREN

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**FILM CLIPS**

REVIEWS BY MICHAEL LASKY & STEVE WARREN

**Fanny and Alexander**  
Joyous Surprises



*Kid Stuff. That hardly describes Ingmar Bergman's opulent fairy tale FANNY AND ALEXANDER, which features Pernilla Allwin (r.) and Bertil Guve in the title roles.*

Somewhere between exile and his latest retirement Ingmar Bergman took the time to make "Fanny and Alexander," an epic fairy tale that takes 3 1/4 hours to watch.

Set at the turn of the Century, the story and the production have the rich detail of a 19th century novel. The visual styles — at least four of them to complement four contrasting lifestyles — often take on the quality of paintings of different periods.

The children of the title — aged 8 and 10 respectively — become Cinderella and Cinderelle when their father dies and their mother marries a bishop-prick. This wicked stepfather keeps them prisoner, locked into austerity in the midst of a grim palace.

Since it's a fairy tale we know they'll live happily ever after, but since it's Bergman there's always the chance they'll be living happily in hell. Bergman and Woody Allen have been on a collision course for years and there are times when it's hard to tell which of them directed this film. When God appears as a giant puppet, who's spoofing whom?

Bergman's script teeters between mysticism and melodrama, now a ghost story and now a soap opera. There are endless soliloquies and the

longest death watch since Cries and Whispers, but there are also countless joyous surprises and an overriding meticulousness that overwhelms our eyes even when we're numb at both ends.

In the tradition of great Bergman actresses, Ewa Froling as the mother and Gunn Wallgren as the grandmother are superb. In the moppet category Pernilla Allwin has a totally passive role as Fanny while Bertil Guve, who is adequate but not extraordinary, has the more complex part of Alexander. His eyes, one of the first things we see in the

film, almost made me run out and join NAMBLA.

We never learn much about two weird brothers who appear late in the picture. Aron (Mats Bergman) may well be Gay, while the Bowie-like Ismael (Stina Ekblad) is more woman than man.

Fanny and Alexander is the kind of movie that exhausts a critic's supply of superlatives after first exhausting the critic. It's a mixed bag of Bergman that's definitely art but often entertainment as well. ■

(Clay) S. Warren

**L'Etoile du Nord**



*The marvelous Simone Signoret cooks, cleans, and washes dishes convincingly in L'ETOILE DU NORD; but who goes to the movies to watch someone cook, clean, and wash dishes?*

If the 30's setting was your favorite aspect of Murder on the Orient Express, you'll adore L'Etoile du Nord, a new French drama named for another train and based on a novel by the prolific Georges Simenon.

On the other hand, if you'd be bothered by seeing Walter Matthau in a part that was written for Warren Beatty or Richard Gere, you won't accept Philippe Noiret in the leading role of Edouard, a figurative "lady-killer" who literally kills a man. The victim was a goose who laid golden eggs for Edouard's Sally

cally and are motivated inexplicably, La Truite features Isabelle Huppert, perhaps the most irritating actress in France, as a spiteful female who thrills at taking men for all their worth and then leaving them. Jean-Pierre Cassell is one of the victims and he in turn dumps on poor Jeanne Moreau, who looks like an aging Bette Davis and smokes like a chimney.

Why Losey, who is one of England's top directors with triumphs like The Servant and Accident, even made a French

language film is mysterious. It's strange that he could not see how stillborn his entire endeavor is. Why anyone would want to see it could only have a kinky explanation.

Isabelle Huppert is enough to keep you away. This unattractive woman has only two expressions — "duh" and "duh with a sneer."

Losey was smart enough to balance her with a delightful cameo by Alexis Smith as a rich American widow who has gone to bed 33,000 times and loved it. Wish we could have been there instead. ■

(Four Star) M. Lasky

**La Truite (The Trout)**

Fishy

If anyone out there can tell me what Joseph Losey's new film, La Truite, is about would they please tell me? Of course, this will mean you'll have to sit through it — which is a fate I wouldn't wish on Jerry Falwell.

Peopled with unattractive characters who speak enigmati-



*Thrown Back. Isabelle Huppert is the chief reason to stay away from the fishing expedition called THE TROUT. Even Jeanne Moreau is not enough bait to hook us.*

**Cabaret Dates**

Scott Rankine brings his appreciable artistry and delectable choice of song to Fanny's each Saturday night in July. Nancy LaMott is there each Friday night.

Kevin Ross appears every Friday this month at the Roxy Roadhouse, backed by his electric band, Raw Satin.

Harrison, Hofsass, Clevenson and Beall present an evening of "Lesbian Cabaret" at the Artemis Cafe on July 9 at 9 p.m.; \$4. ■



## The Ultimate Rejection

by Bernard Spunberg

**H**air . . . Color . . . Two of the most important, perpetual, sensitive and frustrating areas of concern for Negroes," writes Whitney J.

LeBlanc, director and designer of SEW Production's presentation of *Funnyhouse of a Negro* by Adrienne Kennedy.

*Funnyhouse* is not so much a play as a surreal prose poem for the stage. Unlike many works



Queen Victoria, Jesus, a Duchess, and Patrice Lumumba are the characters who surround Sarah (Camille Howard) as she confronts the Black and White schisms of her identity in *FUNNYHOUSE OF A NEGRO*. (Photo: M.I. Chester)

written in a stream of consciousness style, however, *Funnyhouse* is meticulously constructed. Characters are sketched in quick, deft strokes, and scenes last just long enough to make their point. But are frizzy hair and dark skin still a source of anguish for Black people? I've long since bought the idea that Black is Beautiful, so I'm surprised to learn that all Black people haven't, too. But then again, I'm also surprised when I'm reminded that not all Gay people believe that Gay is Good and still refuse to come out of the closet.

Camille Howard plays Sarah, holder of a degree in English, and a poet. Sarah's Blackness fills her with such self-loathing and dread that she is driven to suicide. In the moment before the act is completed, however, her life flashes before her eyes, and ours as well.

We learn of Sarah's compulsion for anything that symbolizes Whiteness, and revulsion by anything that connotes Blackness. She wants to be surrounded by her grand piano, books,

and Oriental carpet while sipping tea at a white porcelain table. She even has a life-sized plaster sculpture of Queen Victoria in her room.

Cynthia Simmons is Duchess, Sarah's alter ego. Her sexual exploitation by David Frank's Raymond, a Jew who is "very interested in Negroes," is willing and cooperative and is further evidence of her self-loathing.

Patrice Lumumba and even Jesus Christ, played by Frank J. Sheppard and Peter Fitzsimmons, also make appearances, but it is the obnoxious gossiping of Helene O'Connors' Landlady that hits home squarely. She ridicules Sarah cruelly not for her Blackness, but for her rejection of her Blackness, for Sarah's own hatred and rejection of self.

Director-designer LeBlanc had set the action in an expressive abstraction of Sarah's room, and his choice of European Romantic and Post Romantic music as well as the actors' own prerecorded voices comment on the action ironically.

Cynthia Simmons is touchingly bewildered and compliant in her relationship with the

Jewish boyfriend, and the rest of the ensemble is marked by discipline and concentration. A surreal theater piece requires strong direction of unified vision and purpose, and that is evident in LeBlanc's work.

Poetry also has its requirements, however and *Funnyhouse* would make its points more strongly if it were played at a slightly slower general tempo. The overall duration would actually seem briefer, since nothing on stage is so interminable as that which goes by too quickly to be understood.

Whether or not Black is Beautiful or Gay is Good, playwright Kennedy's work, first performed in 1964, remains viable and universal because she places ultimate responsibility for Sarah's woes on her own shoulders and not on any external malevolence. Yes, Black people have been miserably, shamefully discriminated against, but by believing and internalizing negative myths about her Blackness, Sarah oppresses herself more effectively than anyone else ever could. In fact, she oppresses herself to the point of self-destruction, and therein lies the tragedy. ■

## MUSIC

### Organists Pipe Up

by Allen White

**T**he mighty theatre pipe organ is alive in San Francisco. For the past week over 800 people from all over the world have gathered in San Francisco for the 28th annual convention of a group called the American Theatre Organ Society. The Theatre pipe organ convention is to music what the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade is to Gay culture.

This particular musical instrument was in its heyday in the era of silent movies. The organs were part of a day when cinemas were literal "cathedrals of the motion picture." Several of these grand theatres still exist. One is the Paramount in Oakland, another the Castro. Both have been restored and have been given landmark status. Because they both have theatre pipe organs, they were the setting for several events.

Friday the conventioners descended into BART below their musky headquarters hotel, the Sheraton-Palace, and were whisked to the opening concert at the Oakland Paramount. With badges that identified their homes, the organ buffs carried an assortment of flash cameras, little penlights, binoculars, tape recorders and an ample supply of Wrigley's spearmint chewing gum. One guy was in Western drag, two were in leather, another was dressed like King Kong and the head of the event, a charmer named Dan Lovett, was dressed like a 20's gangster.

The concert began with Lyn Larsen rising majestically out of the orchestra pit at the console of the organ. Words like "grand," "mighty" and "great" are used to describe these Wurlitzers. The reasoning is justified when the sound from the pipes fills the theatre. No sound is quite the same.

There is also no organist quite like Lyn Larsen. The people putting on this convention wanted

one of the best to play their opener, and they got him. Larsen's program opened with "California, Here I Come" and continued with other music of a bygone era. The newest selection he played was written over thirty years ago, in honor of the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

One can define the artistry of Lyn Larsen by saying that what Fred Astaire is to dance, Larsen is to the theatre pipe organ. He put on a program that brought together the lush quality of the instrument, superbly tasteful music and excellent playing ability in the magnificent art-deco setting of the Paramount Theatre.

Saturday night the organ enthusiasts were in for some sort of culture shock as they visited the Gay Capital of the World for a concert at the Castro Theatre. They came from towns across America as varied as Wags Head, North Carolina and Ferndale, Michigan and were hustled in and out of the theatre by chartered buses that stopped

precisely at the theatre's front door.

During the intermission they innocently ventured outside the theatre. Surprise! Two of our best in leather walked into the crowd which included ladies dressed in a manner for which drag queens would kill. One woman in stacked gray hair was decked out in a full length Howard Johnson blue evening gown.

Inside the audience heard the newly installed Castro Theatre mighty Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ. For the last several months there has been diligent work by a dedicated family headed by Ray Taylor and also organ technician, Ed Stout. Stout is the person responsible for the fine sounds of the organ at Grace Cathedral. Together they have given the Castro one of the finest theatre pipe organ installations. The 16 sets of pipes (or ranks as they are called) have been tuned, voiced and regulated to absolute perfection.

For the Saturday night concert they presented Walt Strony who is today one of the best theatre organists in the world.

(Continued on page 27)



Pumping the Pipes. Considered one of the best theatre organists in the world, Walt Strony performed Saturday night at the Castro Theatre as part of the American Theatre Organ Society's program. (Photo: Rink)

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## TALES OF TESSI TURA

### The Premium on Youth

GEORGE HEYMONT

Ah, youth — that delicious time of life when toreyplay blossoms into love, passion ignites into exploding fireworks and sexual endurance knows no limits. For singers, the early part of the career is a time when the voice is strong and robust (while the ego remains malleable enough to mesh with an ensemble). Certain operas, in particular, benefit by being cast with young singers whose voices can imbue the vocal line with a crystalline sheen and near-pubescent vitality. These younger artists often bring a spunky sassiness to their performances, too.

Often, however, as a singer matures the lightness and freshness in the voice begin to fade and the artist is better served by moving into heavier roles. Those whose dedication keeps them within the Mozart repertoire are continually challenged by their younger competition. The results are not always pretty.

#### MIDDLE-AGED CRISIS

Last summer I had the distinct privilege of seeing a superb production of *Così fan tutte* sung in English by a dream cast of young American singers. Conducted by the late Calvin Simmons and directed by Dr. Jonathan Miller, the opera was staged in a 900-seat theatre perfect for Mozart's chamber operas. It was a memorable evening which shimmered with excitement, inspiration and style.

This summer's revival of *Così* in San Francisco made it only too clear that having once scaled the heights, it's hard to settle for mediocrity. As much as I adore Ponnelle's production, it seems overblown and frighteningly stodgy when cast with mature artists such as Pilar Lorengar, Tom Krause, Tatiana Troyanos and Gosta Winbergh. The opera lost 70% of its punch by being performed in Italian. A noticeable lack of ensemble effort didn't help matters, either.

Some would be quick to place the blame on director Sonja Frisell (who was basically following Ponnelle's prompt book). I would look toward the podium, however, where conductor Andrew Meltzer once again seemed unable to keep a firm grip on the proceedings. The noticeable lack of communication between the conductor and his artists yielded a lethal situation for any Mozart opera. When Meltzer conducted *Barber of Seville* here last summer, performances slowly deteriorated into an incoherent hodgepodge. This year's *Così* made one feel as if a 12-year-old were in the driver's seat of a semi rig — the music



Womanly, elegant, and eager for a new boyfriend — Tatiana Troyanos in *COSÌ FAN TUTTE*.

continually running away from Meltzer as he tried to reach the gas pedal on the floor.

The more seasoned soloists did their best under the circumstances (although I dare say Pilar Lorengar is getting a bit long in the tooth for the role of Fiordiligi). Tatiana Troyanos did a lot of barking as Dorabella, but had some touching moments, nonetheless. The men were merely passing fair.

Yawn City.



My Boyfriend's Back. Hero (right, Sylvia McNair) guesses the cause of Beatrice's radiant look (Susanne Mentzer) while Ursula (Janice Taylor) looks on in the Opera Theatre of St. Louis' production of Berlioz's *BEATRICE AND BENEDICT*.

The one singer who stood out was Ruth Ann Swenson: a potentially great talent whose Despinna made for an impressive company debut. If only the rest of the cast had been able to toe Miss Swenson's artistic line! The shocking contrast between her art versus that of her elder colleagues was painfully noticeable (but served a valuable function in making the audience aware of the evening's imbalances).

#### THE BITCH AND THE BATCHELOR

Things were quite different in St. Louis, where a new production of Berlioz's *Beatrice and Benedict* may rank as one of the most satisfying operatic events of the year. Drawn from Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, this long-neglected masterpiece deserves of a major comeback in the operatic repertoire. As staged by Colin Graham (with some additional dialogue from Shakespeare's play) the evening became a brilliant jewel of sparkling incandescence. Under John Nelson's baton, the last twenty minutes of Act I glowed with a gossamer-like delicacy. The first act curtain alone was the kind of exquisitely crafted moment to be experienced once in an operatic lifetime.

The cast was comprised largely of young American singers — some of whom are unknown in the Bay area. Rest assured that in five years' time their names will be on everyone's lips. I first saw Susanne Mentzer when she was a member of the Houston Opera Studio. A confident mezzo-soprano with a sweet, flexible voice, Miss Mentzer was an ideal Beatrice: fiery, sarcastic, yet adolescently frail and vulnerable. Sylvia McNair's Hero and Janice Taylor's Ursula rounded out the distaff side of the cast (their lushly romantic trio with Mentzer a sublime delight).

As Benedict, Michael Myers was all butch bluster suddenly thrown off course by the very force of love which he dared to defy. John Davies (a veteran of Western Opera Theatre) and David Parsons (who starred last year in the world premiere of *The Postman Always Rings Twice*) added a sense of masculine flair to the evening's many assets.

And now a word about the show itself. Beatrice and Benedict would seem the ideal vehicle for college opera workshops and smaller groups such as Pippin's Pocket Opera. The music shimmers with an otherworldly glow. The beauty of Shakespeare's lines helps to bridge the dramatic gaps between music, producing an evening of sparkling musical theatre. Framed by John Conklin's delightful unit set, Berlioz's opera was an unmitigated triumph for young lovers (even though some married merely out of pity for each other).

One might pity the adolescent petulance of Beatrice the bitch or the youthful pride of Benedict the bachelor. I'll brook no pity, however, for the young artists who sang these roles.

They were superb. ■

#### Nudes II

New photographs by Nina Glaser will be on exhibit at 544 Natoma Performance Gallery from July 13 until August 6. A reception will be held on July 12 from 7-10 p.m. The exhibit consists of new works. "I am attracted to ambiguity and androgyny," said Glaser. "Consequently, the models I choose to work with are in touch with and comfortable with both their masculine and feminine sides. ■

## TONED EAF TONE DEAF TONE

### Recent Record Roundup

JERRY DE GRACIA

#### OUT OF THE BLUES, or SOMEWHERE FROM LEFT FIELD

White boys singing the blues are not uncommon; this was the original framework of rock, but for a band to attempt a more traditional blues style and pull it off is rarer still. Blues fans, like jazz enthusiasts or even opera queens, tend to be purist and very picky. Being neither, The Nighthawks' *Ten Years Live* on Varrick Records suits me just fine for blues material.

This Washington, D.C., band has spent ten years on a local scene. The years weren't wasted, if that's any consolation to them. It all falls into place on side two's "If You Go," a slow, gutsy torcher which is probably much too embarrassing for sophisticated Gay taste but as soulful as Wilson Pickett's get-down-and-wail "If You Need Me." (I can see now I'll never fit into the Pacific Heights scene.)

#### LAST AND LEAST

Gabi Delgado's *Mistress* on Virgin Records is reminiscent of the baths before AIDS and after 4 AM, when the space cadets need musical guide dogs to carry them through their appointed rounds. Although similar, the music is not as slick as *Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark* or any of the Yellow Magic Orchestra's offshoots but it does have a raw appeal, not so much a diamond in the rough but more like a 16-year-old with pimples. The fact that it is not wrinkle-free, that it doesn't slide through the ears unfelt, gives it character, or is that just the illusion of character?

#### KILLER ON THE RAM-

PAGE: Eddy Grant (Ice Records): The current hit from this reggae LP *Electric Avenue* has gained Top 40 airplay because it spices up the mellow-er-than-thou reggae routine with a touch of anger and a dose of electricity by some fine musicians. Unfortunately, the rest of the album slides back into Rastaman vibrations. That's about 20 beats per minute on a good day.

NON-FICTION: The Blasters (Slash): The truth is the Blasters are more authentic than the Stray Cats and yet can't hone in on a hit song. They play rockabilly like it was 1952 and they were Carl Perkins but they just can't find their "Blue Suede Shoes". Even if you stick to their debut LP, which is the best of the three they have released, don't miss them in concert.

THE BELLE STARS: The Belle Stars (WB/Stiff): I'm wary of any song Pia Zadora did first. Therefore this collection of nursery rhymes, which includes "The Clapping Song," as well as "Iko, Iko" and "Mockingbird," leaves me rather suspicious. To be kind, let's just say they sound as cute as Pia Zadora did.

LINED UP: Shriekback (12", Y Records): Along with New Orders' "Blue Monday", Shriekback's dance music (including this new release), may have old fans jumping ship at their beginning signs of commercial success. But what both groups have done with their current releases aimed at the club scene is to meld new sounds to an old habit — dancing. The results in both cases are not earthshaking, but they offer viable alternatives nonetheless. ■



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# SPORTS

## CORNER POCKET

### Our Best Season

The San Francisco Pool Association wraps up its tenth season this Saturday with a big party and awards presentation at the Oasis. The consensus: This season was our best, and included a \$2,500 donation to AIDS.

February: Just prior to opening night, we presented AIDS research with \$2,500, raised at our January 11 party at Trocadero; it was our proudest moment . . . At the Cable Car Awards, SFPA members Colin Bradley, Luby Pelletier, and Barbara Steel were honored.

March: The Stallion Stampede won 25 consecutive games, setting a new league record . . . Jim Sell got his National Gay/Lesbian 8 Ball Tournament plan underway, bolstered by a \$1,000 donation from White Swallow owner Russ Glenn . . . Badlands bartender Chris Peterson won the Sponsor's Tournament.

April: The Stallion Stampede was sizzling along at a record-breaking pace in Division I;

Febe's Gypsies and The Badlands were trading the lead in Division II; Febe's Dons regained the Division III lead from the Arena Phalanx; and the White Swallow Fabulous 40's saw their lead taken away from them by the Arena Warriors . . . The league's team captains vote E.Z. (Stampede) the top player.

May: Kitty Stephens finishes her season with 18 straight wins — the season's longest streak . . . Macante's Marauders make the playoffs their first season in the league . . . The Stallion Stampede, The Badlands, Febe's Dons, and the Arena Warriors are Division winners as the playoffs begin . . . The SFPA sends an All-Star team to the Calif. Billiards Championship for the first time — resulting in a bit of homophobia among the contenders; the team finished second for \$300 cash . . . E.Z. wins both the Top 16 and the annual 8 Ball Championship, going undefeated (9/0) in the final matches of both contests . . .

Bill Kazee wins the Class "A" Tourney.

### FEBE'S DONS CRUNCH STAMPEDE

June: Febe's Dons earn the trip to the West Coast Challenge in Hollywood with back-to-back victories (9/5, 9/6) over the Stallion Stampede (Stampede team captain Gordon Bell's comment: "If I'm going to get beat, I want to get beaten good. We got beaten good.") . . . Febe's Gypsies defeat The Badlands for 3rd place . . . E.Z. sets a record that may never be equalled: Winning the Most Valuable Player tournament (initiated this season and sponsored by a \$2,000 annual donation from California Beverage/Coors), he becomes the first player to win three major tournaments in a single season . . . The league takes a booth at the Gay Pride fest for the first time, selling Orelia to the thirsty throng.

So you'll be seeing a lot of smiling faces this Saturday at the Oasis, 11th and Folsom. Join us! It's from noon 'til six, \$5 admission for non-members as a benefit for AIDS, and there'll be plenty of food and door prizes. ■

## G.S.L. UPDATE

### Kokpit Repeat As Tournament Champ

by Chuck Smith

The GSL was once again graced with beautiful weather, this time for our July 4th Tenderloin Classic Mini-Tournament and Fundraiser. After breakfasting at the Phone Booth, we met at Lang Field for the competition, with the Kokpit playing the Phone Booth and Deluxe playing Googies. All profits from the breakfast and the beer sales at the field were donated to the AIDS/KS Foundation.

In the first two games, Googies beat Deluxe 15-2, and the Kokpit bested the Phone Booth 15-5. The two winners then met in a third game to decide the champ, and Chacha's Kokpit team came up with a 15-4 win over John David's spirited Googies bunch. Beer

sales were brisk, enabling us to make a \$420 donation, which also included a nice contribution from Robert Golovich. A hearty thanks goes to all those players and fans who helped us raise this money, and also to "Metz" and Les Balmain for umpiring the games.

Then it was party time! First, we invaded Deluxe then went on to Googies, and finally to the Kokpit for a full buffet and awards presentation. In addition to the team trophies, the Jerry Walker MVP Award was given to John Quinn for his excellent playing. (I think we all should have gotten trophies for excellent partying because the day was quite fun!)

We look forward to next year's tournament, which will be known from now on as the Jerry

Walker Memorial Tournament, in honor of a man who always typified the spirit and ideals of the GSL.

### Sporting Clubs

**Frontrunners:** July 10, Lafayette Park/Presidio Gate (New Run - 3.5 miles, rolling) Meet at top of the park, up from the tennis courts, Clay & Octavia Sts. Pacific Heights at its best.

**Different Spokes Bicycle Club:** July 10, Palo Alto/Stanford. No hills, leisurely pace, about 15 miles. Meets 11 a.m., at #87 Encina, Palo Alto. Contact Rich, 326-4410 or 327-7400. Bring Lunch.

A local "Decide and Ride" meets each Saturday at 10 a.m., at the Freewheel Bicycle Shop, 1920 Hayes, Near Ashbury.

**S.F. Hiking Club:** July 10, Maguire Peaks, Sunol Regional Park (near Fremont), Calaveras exit off 680. Meet at McDonald's, Haight and Stanyan at 9:45. Info: 621-3413. ■

Walker Memorial Tournament, in honor of a man who always typified the spirit and ideals of the GSL. ■

### Organists

(Continued from page 25)

San Franciscans may remember twenty years ago when the most famous organist of the day, George Wright used to play at the Fox Theatre. The Fox has been torn down and Wright now rides the laurels of his past. In his place has come this 27 year old musician. His sensitivity is exquisite and creativity is a luxury for the listener's ears. He dazzled his audience with selections that ranged from "Bolero" to "Memory" from the musical Cats.

Strony opened the second half with "That's Entertainment" presented in pure showbiz style. He concluded his scheduled program with an arrangement of "The 1812 Overture" that brought the near capacity audience to its feet in standing ovation. He concluded his concert with "I Left My Heart In San Francisco" and as the organ descended into the pit a couple in their sixties put their arms around each other.

The unofficial bar for the group of organ lovers was the New Bell and David Kelsey be-

came the musical greeter. On the morning of July 4 Kelsey gave the first concert on yet another theatre pipe organ, newly installed at the Grand Lake Theatre.

Bob Vaughn, who two weeks ago had performed for the opening of the Lesbian/Gay Film Festival, presented an evening of organ accompaniment for silent movies out at the Avenue Theatre.

This bevy of theatre pipe organ activity actually continues. The Paramount Theatre is presenting three pipe organ events during the coming year. On November 19, George Wright recreates the Fox Theatre days and on March 24, Gaylord Carter will present a program including a full length silent film. Lyn Larsen returns to the Para-

### Connector Benefits AIDS

The Connector, San Francisco's internationally known Gay Playline, presents a benefit concert at the Oasis Club, 278 11th Street at Folsom, on July 15 from 8 until Midnight. All proceeds will go to the AIDS/KS Foundation. Tickets are \$7.50 in advance or \$10 at the door. Tickets are good for one free drink and drawings

for valuable door prizes. Featuring: Lee Rodgers and Jamaal in concert. Music is R A Z Z ! (Rock, Jazz, and Rhythm & Blues). Call (415) 346-6277 for ticket info. Tickets are also available at all authorized retail outlets for The Connector: Distractions; Mr. S. Leather Shop; Savages; and All American Mail. ■



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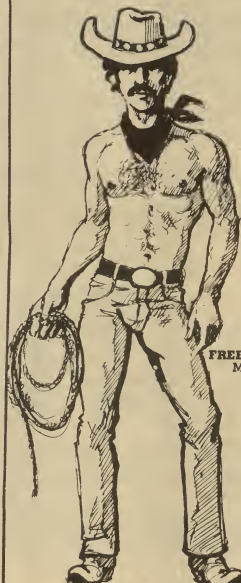
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## MY KNIGHTS IN LEATHER

### Festoons of Freedom

KARL STEWART

#### KNIGHT-FALL FAREWELL

The Fourth of July has always been a family occasion for me. As my people are far to the south, it's strengthening to spend a long weekend with our Gay Family. The CMC's little family Dragon hunt up in Jenner went well for instance. Some MC members shook their Gay Chains in the Dungeons, too.

Up in the same neck of the Wood's, Joe Altman showed his photo-magic at that resort. Ms.

Sharon McNight was laying them out at Gary Roverana's Drums Party. Lots happening up at the RussRiv.

One last farewell party for Ms. Gina was held last Wednesday at the Eagle, on the Patio. Jay and The Eagle staff BBQed burgers and chicken and Butches "A Group" popped bottles of bubbly. John Clifton floated through with a boat full of GG Troopers and John joined the bucket brigade. Are we keeping track of the

membership roll? Randy was a big organizer of this bash, and reminds us that he's manning Eagles' morning shift on weekends, opening at 11 AM.

Gina received gifts from her S.F. Fan Club — Some crystal, in a pattern called "Fantasia", and a Webber BBQ, which Gina says, will be *purrrfect* for Sacramento." To her public she bids, "Thanks, It's been a real slice . . . of heaven. So long."

Earl is the only one who does "The Duck" correctly at Febe's. I think it's the tail feathers that give him the edge.

★ ★ ★

I want to play catch up with you for a minute. Last week's incredible Drummer party was designed by Tony Bruno and that little black-haired boy worked his pretty buns off, to. Drummer will find itself in new digs soon. Mr. Embry will move his little brood to 960 Folsom (the old Trading Post). Rumor has it the wonder-boy Frank Hatfield will be in charge of a retail outlet at that location, pushing their new food supplement "Vita-Men", which comes from the same chemist as *Him Vitamins*. This means Embry is looking for a new Ad Director. (If I know Frank, he'll be pushing more than pills. He can not only sell it to you, but tie you up with it too.)

#### (FOR DIGNITARIES)

We had some visiting "digs" last week, notably Travis Mask (ex-manager of the Castro Station) with his hunky lover Bukkie. They're soaking up rays in Phoenix these days. Travis is thinking of opening a leather bar there. I knew he couldn't stay out of the bizz for long. Retirement indeed.

The Eagle's first lady Frank Benoit had a couple of old MC buddies in too. Frank McGowan of Companion Club of Philly; and Frank Escobar, who is an associate Constantine in Dallas. Another recent transplant to that cowtown is Kirt Oxley, who was reunited with band buddies at a "Ladies Lunch" at the new



*Flexing Fellow. John Garger won the Mr. Drummer title after a strip tease that went down to the buff. Donning a leather jock, he puffed up his chest, ground out some pelvic glory, and took home the title. (Photo: Rink)*

Trinity/Iron Duke. He says Dallas is borrrrrring, after "The City" life. I'll bet.

The old model T feeling a bit under the weather? Check out Labyris Auto Repair, at 240 6th, between Howard and Folsom. This all women repair shop features the most straight forward honest folks in the known Gay world.

Some of your favorite SF writers are featured in the cur-

rent *Advocate*. It's a San Francisco Issue, including The Cabaret Fox (John Karr) and a certain leather columnist you may have read.

#### BLACK KNIGHT GONE GREY

It was Marc Thompson of *The Advocate* who said, "The Leather community is a sexual democracy." I quite agree. It was

(Continued on next page)

## SEX STILL SIZZLES at the CALDRON

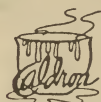
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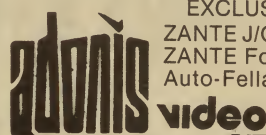
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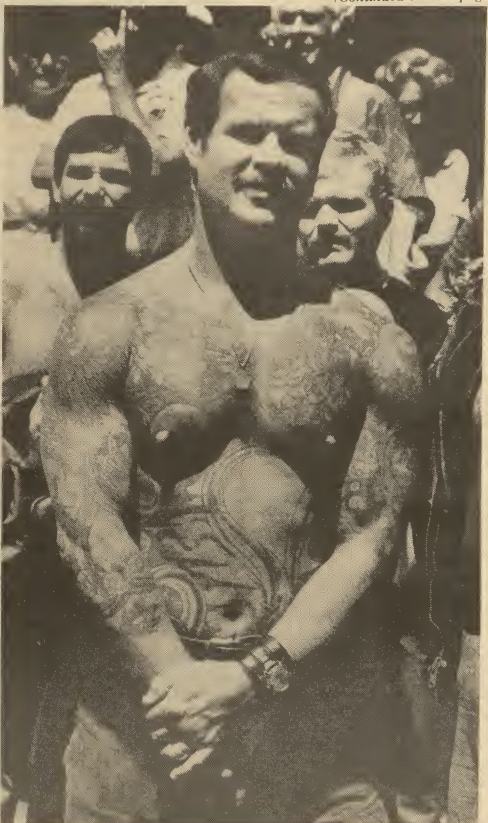
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*All This Art and Nipples, Too? It's one thing to own a painting, another to be one. The wondrous tattoos on this hunk distracted many an eye from the parade to a pictorial pectoral. (Photo: R. Pruzan)*



## KNIGHTS

(Continued from previous page)

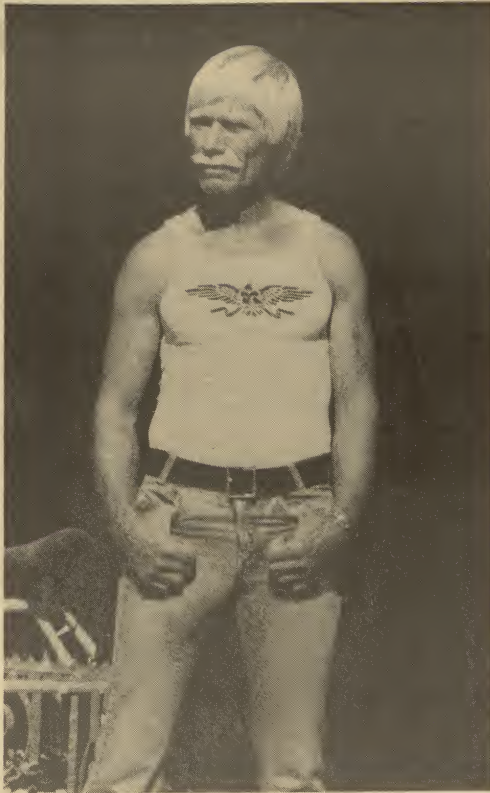
my privilege to represent the *Bay Area Reporter* at the Conference On Lesbian and Gay Aging. I was on a media panel and was struck by how alienated some older Gay and Lesbian folks feel toward the community. *Plexus* writer Mary Lou Hadditt stated that older Lesbians get it both ways. As Lesbians they feel invisible and as older women they also disappear. I feel good about Leathermen's care for their senior members. You see their contributions in the MC's and other clubs. We welcome the Daddies in bars and baths which feature leather. As with a good S/M session, we revere Daddies and Granddaddies for experience and expertise. I commend Don Catalano and all his friends for their fine work in building this important bridge in the greater Gay community to our aging family members through NAFL&GG.

### LEATHERBURY "TAILS"

Read Gilmor, having just completed a rousing anniversary party at *The Fickle Fox*, is at it again with *The Castle Grande's* chic invitation only, 4th year soiree (Ask him or Steve for an invite). Mr. Gilmor recently did a stint as guest Barkeep at the Eagle upon the request of J.C. I wonder how much revenue Read and his top waiter Darryl lost for J.C. while in the pit that night?

The Fox was the scene of much music last week as pianist/composer Rick Jensen guested on the ivories. George, Castle Grande's main keyboard jockey, sat in with Rick for duets and 'The Foxes' own singing cocktail waiter gave forth with his huge tenor "Broadway Boomer". Rick is in town with Harvey Fierstein's *Torch Song Trilogy*, which opens this week at Theater on the Square and plays through August. One of his fellow dicky-birds, Nancy LaMott, is also here from The Big Apple, and sang some tunes. Nancy will be featured at Fanny's on Friday's through August, too. Rick is an articulate and precise musician with a James Taylor tenor voice and a sense of casual joy about him. Hope we'll see lots more of him while he's here.

Pearl, Vickie Rochas and



Politically Incorrect Photo Caption, Subcategory: Objectification. Several floats were reported missing after the Parade. Could they be up this onlooker's pants leg? (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Seam Delany (w/cast of thousands) are doing a limited engagement of *What The Hell*, a musical revue roughly based on Dante's *Inferno* by Seam and his buddy Richard McNees. Opening tomorrow, Saturday and Sunday, with two shows 8 & 10 p.m., at Studio Eremos, in Project Artaud; 17th and Alabama. Tickets \$10 in advance at Headlines or \$12.50 at the door.

Studio Rhino is still featuring *The Member of the Wedding* through July 17, curtain is at 8:30 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

The Bondage sequences in Robert Chesley and Christopher Beck's *Nocturnes* sound very intriguing. Tonight's 544 Natoma performance will run

through this weekend and July 14-16, with curtain at 8:30. For only a fiver, one can't pass up this one. *Nocturnes* is a multimedia movement/media event.

Remember, the next run is the *Barbary Coasters* at the end of this month. They're known for their monumental run shows.

See you in the skins. ■

K. Stewart

### Karl's Calendar

Thursday, 7/7: *Nocturnes*. 544 Natoma, 8:30pm, \$5; through 7/16. *What the Hell* (A Musical Revue). Studio Eremos in Project Artaud (17th & Alabama), 8 & 10pm; \$10 advance (Headlines), \$12 door; featuring Pearl Heart, Vickie Rochas, Seam Delaney.

Saturday, 7/9: 5-Bike Christening. Eagle Patio, 3pm.

Sunday, 7/10: 1st Anniversary Beer Bust & Raffle. Golden Gate Troopers, 3-7pm, \$6.

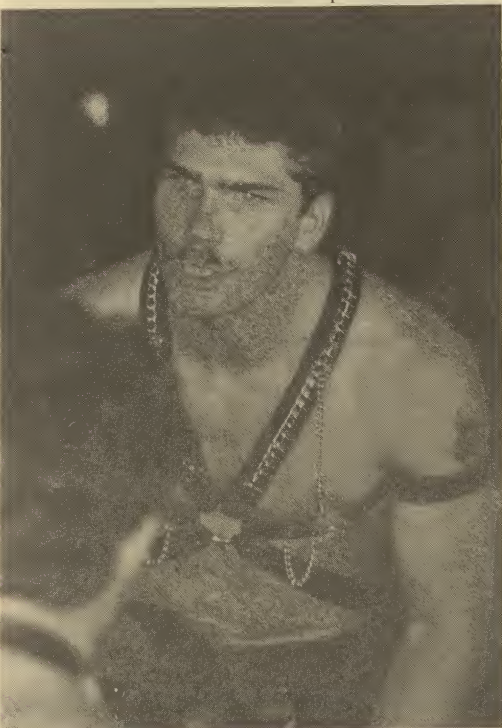
Tuesday, 7/12: John Bix Paintings. Ambush; reception 5:30-7:30 pm.

Thursday, 7/14: *Nocturnes*. 544 Natoma; Dance/Media Theatre; 8:30, \$5; through 7/16.

Friday, 7/15: Open Meeting. *Barbary Coasters*/Warlocks. Eagle, Patio Bar; 8:30pm.

### Miss Haight-Ashbury

The Miss Haight Ashbury Beauty Pageant, is currently accepting applications for contestants. To be held on Saturday, July 31, at The Great American Music Hall, this year's Miss Haight Ashbury Pageant promises to be bigger and better than ever. Contestants will compete in traditional categories of evening gown, swimsuit, and talent competitions, and as a special addition to this year's show, contestants will participate in a dance competition. Proudly billed as "politically correct," the pageant is open to females and males alike. Potential contestants (men, women, or otherwise) can pick up applications at The Other Cafe in the Haight-Ashbury or by calling Other Productions at 626-4170.



Bloody Barker. Mr. Southern California Drummer, Mark Siefker of Los Angeles, brutalizes his slaves shortly before they revolt as he enacts a fantasy during the contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

## PHONE SEX

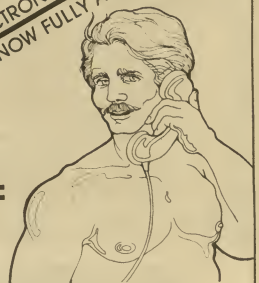
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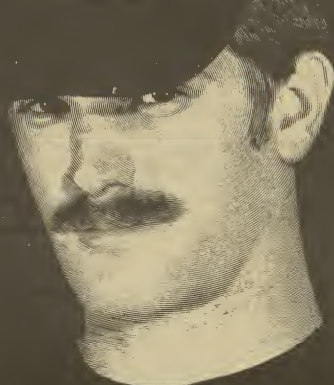
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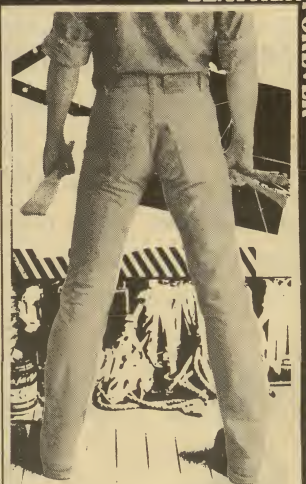
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## A Weekend With International Mr. Leather

by Duke J. Armstrong

If you were going to the airport to pick up International Mr. Leather, what would you wear? Right. And the metal detector repeatedly buzzed its disapproval. The fat, old attendant was more than a little annoyed, and I was put to some inconvenience to prove that I packed no lethal weapons.

As I hurried on to Gate 39 to meet Flight 105 from Houston, erotic fantasies raced through my head. Mr. Marcus had asked me to serve as escort, and what reasonably sane Gay man would not be just a little excited about the prospect of spending a whole weekend in the intimate company of International Mr. Leather? Not me, for sure. But my excitement was tempered by trepidation. It could be expected that a super-star title holder would have attitude for days: cold, hard, demanding, conceited. International Mr. Leather was not, I did not want any self-centered jerk-off to rain on my parade.

In the event, the weekend took quite a different turn from anything I could ever have imagined as I stood there at Gate 39 waiting for this mysterious leatherman from Houston. But then plain old reality can at times be better than the distant dream. And so, in fact, it was.

For Coulter Thomas is not the archetypal heavy leatherman. Nor is he a dumb muscular jock. He is instead, a cute, affectionate little boy full of curiosity, kindness, and insecurity. What he lacks in polish and self-assurance he makes up for with enthusiasm and simple honesty. Born in a small central Texas town, raised on a sprawling ranch, and educated in the homophobic atmosphere of Texas A & M, the orbit of Colt's experience is limited. At 24 he is a third-year medical student at the University of Texas at Galveston, confused about his future, and still closeted with his parents. With all his brains and brawn, he is yet shy and deeply sensitive.

When I met Colt that first time at SFO he wore a black cowboy hat and a big grin. I knew instantly that he did not fit any image I had imagined. After a handshake and some chit chat about the flight, I rushed him to his room at the Atherton Hotel where he stripped (yes, they do grow things bigger in Texas!), showered, and changed clothes while I fiddled nervously with the television set. Actually he changed clothes two or three times before we finally left for the Mr. Drummer Contest at Trocadero Transfer. But I was in no hurry. He could have changed clothes in front of me all night. And, in fact, that is practically what he did. During the course of the evening he twice asked me to take him back to the hotel so he could change clothes again. He was obviously feeling a bit insecure on this, his first night in San Francisco.

Colt seemed somewhat lost and uncomfortable most of the night. He got quite upset when his presence was announced at one stage of the proceedings and no one seemed to notice. I started to get a little worried about this kid I did not even know, but for whom I felt some responsibility.

But the evening ended on a high. During the 3:00 a.m. awards ceremony Colt was called up to the stage and, in his distinctive Southern twang, he told the audience that he had just had an operation to remove his tonsils. The bad news was that he had consequently lost 16 pounds. But the good news was that he now had more room in his throat. The crowd loved it. I relaxed — and there were no more costume changes that night. We dropped by the world famous Castro Donut Shop on the way home where, in front of the cash register, Colt playfully removed part of the cod-piece from my leather pants. When we finally parted for the night I could feel a touch of warmth and trust between us.

On Saturday, after a work out at the Muscle System and lunch, Colt and I went to a reception at

Oasis for the Drummer contestants. Colt wore shorts, T-shirt, and sneakers, and seemed noticeably more comfortable than in his leathers. He was also noticeably more affectionate with me that day, and was in high spirits when I took him to Mr. S. Leathers where Eric measured him for a custom pair of leather fatigues. It was then back to the Atherton. I gave him a full hour and a half to change clothes to his heart's content before returning at 7:45 p.m. to take him to California Hall for the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band's fifth anniversary party.

The party was my idea. I am part of the Band Foundation and so wanted him to make an appearance. He asked to be announced and to speak so I arranged it, then coached him about the Band and what he should say on its fifth anniversary. He made a stunning entrance as spotlights flashed, but forgot his lines when he got to

and it all went swimmingly. Colt was enjoying himself popping corks and serving champagne from the stage. I knew this was my chance to slip away. I had a date (with Randy, star bartender at the Arena) and was desperately in need of a little privacy, and some personal attention and affection. So I climbed up on the stage to say goodnight. Colt was surprised by my abrupt decision to leave. He poured some of his champagne down my back as he hugged and kissed me. But it did not matter. He also poured something else into that hug and kiss. Although we had met barely 26 hours earlier, we had started to understand each other and to share and care.

Sunday dawned clear and bright — and much too early. Colt was to ride on the Line Up float which was housed in Pier 45A at the foot of Taylor Street just down from Alioto's at Fisherman's Wharf. It was too early for Colt to get his contacts in, and he was wearing glasses when we arrived punctually at 7:30 a.m. as requested. All of the others on the float were strangers and none of them wore any leather. I felt a twinge of guilt about leaving Colt alone, but I was marching with the Band and could not stay. I need not have worried; he managed just fine. In fact, he rode the entire Parade route twice. He was so excited after the first trip up Market Street that, like some kid on a Disneyland ride, he ran back to the start of the Parade to take a second trip, this time with the Arena contingent. He was thereby spared the shrillness of the Civic Center demagoguery.

It was late that night before our paths crossed again. We met at the Eagle. He excitedly related his experiences of the day and we made a date for breakfast the next morning before his plane left.

And it was over breakfast Monday morning at the Patio



Thoroughbred. Mr. International Leather, Colt Thomas (front) was at first skittish in San Francisco — he arrived to preside over the year's busiest weekend — but under the watchful eye of host Duke Armstrong (rear) he reared up, showed his mettle, and proved to all just why he won his title. (Photo: Rink)

the microphone. It really did not matter; everyone was just staring at his body anyway. I hugged and reassured him. He just needs a little more practice.

Mr. Marcus had arranged the rest of the evening so I knew it would go smoothly. First it was a rowdy but intimate little dinner at the Line Up with six very hot leather men, including Jim Cvitanich, Luke Daniel, and Marcus. Colt does not drink much, but he had a couple of Margaritas over dinner and was almost tipsy when we arrived at the reception in his honor at the Eagle (45 minutes late).

Marcus emceed, J.C. furnished several cases of champagne,

Cafe that it all came together. In the whirlwind of the weekend, in the hectic rush of events, we had somehow had enough time to build a friendship; something that is not easy under any circumstances, at least not for me.

Charles Dickens once wrote that all of the individuals rushing through one's life are really fellow passengers to the grave and not another race of people bound on other journeys. Every once in awhile one intuitively feels that sense of common humanity when someone stops long enough to share and care and say howdy. A sensitive little Texan boy did that for me over Gay Freedom weekend. ■



## Men of the Hour

We reporters have a lust for categorization. We are ruled by a perpetual writing contest that commands us to describe the flow of human events in twenty-five words or less.

Last week, however, saw a massive attack on journalistic skills.

The parade. The KS Foundation Benefit. The Mr. Drummer contest.

Stunned by the sheer scale of the action, I stumbled into one of my favorite pubs to have a beer and ponder a fitting description of all that I'd seen.

Wearily I viewed the crowd of men around the bar. Bawdy leather-clad revellers all around, except one. My eyes had come to rest on one man who I'd met earlier in the weekend. He was looking pensive — almost sad.

Ray Alfond was here as an escort for David Earl Lee, Mr. Southeast Drummer, for the Mr. Drummer contest. I moved over to where he stood to talk.

Although originally from Boston, Ray's a real Southern Gentleman. It didn't take long to discover the cause of his pensiveness. He was thinking about how he'd finally accomplished a goal he and his lover had set for themselves a little more than two years ago: to attend the Parade in San Francisco.

AIDS claimed his lover's life before they could do it, though. Ray was regretting the fact that his lover hadn't been there to share the experience as they had planned. We talked about AIDS for awhile, and he told me some of the things he was involved in to raise funds in Atlanta. He's a trooper.

We also talked about the parade. "I've never seen so many gay people in one place in my life," he said. "Yeah, sort of overwhelming," I admitted. "And David looked like he was having a ball on the Arena's convoy in the parade."

Although we also talked about the Mr. Drummer con-

test, Ray minimized the degree to which he had participated. It wasn't until David and his long-time friend and lover Jim Stoval came over to my place later that I found out that Ray had busted butt to make sure everything went smoothly for David. (So had Jim, "handling details." Just hired as Drummer's newest employee, Jim is sticking to S.F.)

David, a 29-year-old architect whose career has taken him to Saudi Arabia, among other places, confirmed that he really was having a ball in that Arena convoy. "Colt and I were having a ball doing Southern all the way up Market Street," he said. He was referring to Colt Thomas, Mr. International Leather, who hails from Texas.

Talking about the Drummer contest and leather contests in general, David said that they "promote brotherhood. It's nice to have something that unites so many people devoting so much energy to the same direction."

It's the method of presentation of the contest in Chicago versus the Drummer contest that disallows them from being competitive with each other for any over-all dominance.

In Chicago, the contest was between men who were put there by their peers as acknowledged and dedicated leathermen, and the presentation was formal and serious.

Although no less serious in interest in leather, the Drummer contest was a vehicle for each of the contestants to demonstrate how they were into leather, by being given enough theatrical license to play out a skit version of a favorite fantasy. It was like an issue of Drummer come to life.

The only point at which this display of machismo was put to the test during the contest was a portion devoted to showing off the contestants' dancing abilities, each man spotlighted in his turn. The dance competition was, to a man, more squirm than dance. He-men don't

wiggle.

Reportedly three-votes close, John Garger came out as the 1983 Mr. Drummer and David as 1st runner-up. Second runner-up George Moore, whose fruit punch service to two devoted slaves on stage wowed the audience at the contest, rounded out the winning team for the event.

I talked to John Garger a couple of times during the weekend. He was elated. Colt Thomas had him on the stage during a reception Marcus arranged for Colt at the Eagle, Colt's way of pointing out another prime example of leather man-hood.

"I met John Garger in Chicago," said Colt. "He won the Leather Brotherhood Award there, and I was really glad to see him win the Mr. Drummer Contest."

John says he feels like this has been a winning year for him. Coming away with the Leather Brotherhood Award in Chicago, then coming away winner of the Mr. Drummer contest here has left him beaming. He plans to make the Drummer title work to the benefit of the leather community in concert with Colt whose goal is the same with his title. They both credit Luke Daniels, who held both titles last year, as having blazed the trail for productive use of contest titles.

One of the ways they plan to benefit the leather community is to participate in fund-raisers for AIDS research.

I hope that'll make Ray Alfond, and a whole lot of other people who have suffered loss at the hands of AIDS, feel better.

★ ★ ★

The July Fourth weekend was jammed with picnics, parties and balls. The country fair all weekend long at the Ramrod serves to re-introduce that bar as one of the hottest — and just in time for Rodeo fever. Four nights of C&W, and lots of balls swinging in step. Golden Gate Park got a taste of the Pilsner Inn during that bar's annual Fourth of July Family Reunion Covered Dish Social that was followed up by a party featuring hot dogs and hot men at the Arena.

Word has it that leathermen were quietly slipping away from the city for a few days just before



It Was There The Last Time I Checked. Mr. Southeast Drummer David Earl Lee (right) and Mr. Southern California Drummer Mark Siefert keep a grip on the goods while taking a break during the Mr. Drummer contest. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

the Fourth to party it up aboard "Dr. Bill's" sailboat somewhere on the Delta. As part owner of the Folsom Hotel, "Dr. Bill" has a reputation for hospitality, not to mention competition sailing.

Potrero Hill got heated up by a party thrown by a hot pair of leathermen. Hugh Swaney and Stan Spaeth opened their doors to about fifty men. Talk about glow — outdid all manner of fireworks.

★ ★ ★

The point of the past two weeks or so of action, to me, is that in spite of the AIDS odds, this city parties with flair, works with flair and loves with flair.

And with a determination to be free and love free, we Gays are in there at the forefront showing the rest of the city how to do it.

That's as neatly and briefly as I can categorize us. ■

## PORN CORNER

## Pud Pounders For Prurience

RONNETTTTTE

Let me tell you a little story of my personal obsession and how it sabotaged me. I must have the most particularized sexual obsession in the history of debauchery, yet it is a

debauch as cool as it is specific, requiring no more of the participants than masturbation and eliciting no more than masturbation from its originator.

Friday, July 1, the Bijou Cinema advertised two San Francisco premieres — Troy Benny's *Lust Inferno* with William Margold (who is not pretty, is a masturbation enthusiast, and has the biggest cinema balls since Francis the Talking Mule) was opening with Carlos Tobalina's *Interludes of Lust*. I had to leave the last Tobalina film I saw, *Mai Lin versus Serena*, by cabulance: its last scene pitted twenty-three (23!!!) remarkably handsome (though masked) men masturbating in the direction of the film's two protagonists, playing themselves. I was unbalanced. If my Blue Cross had been paid up, I would have vacationed in Napa and somebody else worry about my drugs. I, who rave about German pornography, am proud to say that I have never seen anything as stimulating as this film with 23 (more or less — I was not in a state conducive to exactness) American men pounding their puds for prurience. I have seen the penultimate scene in *Kinky Ladies of Bourbon Street* where four men happily cum into the camera, and the scene in which six men effortlessly coat Jennifer Wells' face and hands in *Inside Jennifer Wells*, but nothing compares to the proud 23 assembled by Mister Tobalina.

Which was, I had hoped, just the beginning of a long, fruitful career in which Tobalina would

(Continued from previous page)



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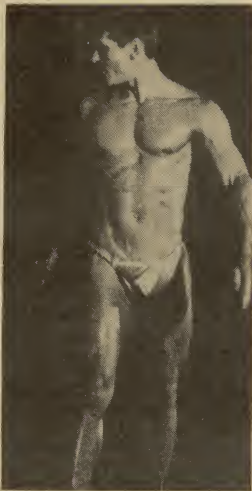
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(Continued from previous page)

continue to present his ideas of entertainment, and which also explains why I was at the Bijou at 11 a.m. Friday morning to check out if he had. I walked in not close enough to the end of *Sensual Fire*, a film in which Jaime Gillis vies with several Lesbian scenes to see who can be more boring. *Lust Inferno* was next. It was entirely too guilt-ridden and heterosexual for me, having nothing more to recommend than Mr. Margold's testicles and one undramatic orgy scene featuring a hairy man who was exactly to my taste. Interlude of *Lust* began auspiciously enough with a pair of new — well, not exactly faces, but as soon as I saw the faces I knew the rest was new. A slightly corpulent but attractive man — bearded, hairy — caught my attention and provided half the sex in the movie. The other half was donated by his disenchanted wife, who in desperate sexual ennui, goes to the whore house of Liz ("My Face For The World To See") Renay to buy something exciting in the sexual sphere. The acting is abysmal, the direction awkward, but fifteen minutes into the film Tobalina provides the first jack-off scene — a rather shoddy, simulated rape — and the second scene at Ms. Liz's is a little ridiculous, but not shoddy.



Rite On! Almost all of Zoltan appeared in *rites of spring*. He reveals the censored portions in another rite at *Savages*. (Photo: T. Plewik)

Three men in dildo-noses and Groucho glasses masturbate unremittably as two women caress the heroine's body. The third scene, too, begins with three men and three women standing around a bed on which the heroine reclines, the men nurs-

ing delectable erections.

It was just at this point when the head-ache I'd gotten earlier that morning, aided by half a pack of cigarettes and the laser-like concentration of a true porno fiend, blossomed so that I could feel every beat of my heart in both my penis and my head. It seemed as if two systems were at war in my body — every excitement on screen translated into the double-edged sword of sexual arousal and migraine. I left the theater, determined to codeine myself into unheadacheful bliss and return to — who knew what kind of jack-off scene Tobalina would provide to follow the first two? The masturbatory scene of my dreams?

Health purists will be interested to note that it was chicken soup (not mother's but Campbell's Noodle) that conquered pain and had me back at the Bijou by 6:45 for the very next showing of Interlude of *Lust*. Irony, thy name is porno. Mr. Tobalina's muse apparently abandoned masturbation after the scenes I'd already seen and forced him into the Scylla and Charybdis of porno-plot, from which treacherous straits of nonsense neither Tobalina nor the movie ever emerged. No lovely jerk-off olympics for this loyal Carlos Tobalina fan. I didn't feel disappointed, I felt

working again at the popular Red Eye Saloon and doing a good job of it. . . also, Gus and Attilio are still serving some of the best food in town and an especially great Sunday brunch.

The next Tavern Guild meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 19, at the Club Dori, 427 Presidio. There will be a special AIDS presentation. Remember to buy the "Truck" tickets for \$1 that will be drawn at the next Tavern Guild Picnic, which is coming up shortly.

Thank you, Jay Noonan, for all of your help on the Googie's picnic, and a special thanks to Bruce for his homemade cheese-cake . . . right, Champagne Jack?

Griff is now bar manager at the Atherton Hotel's Abbey Room — the "2 for 1" cocktail hour (5 to 7 daily) is working this "middle aged" man to "death," but the free hors d'oeuvres sustain him to the end of his shift. ■

with a great buffet. Many of the softball teams were present, and Empress Mae drew the winning ticket. Hope Ed has a great vacation in Hawaii.

Sorry, Budd Levey, for spelling your name wrong, but do hope you did have a great birthday after all!

Dick Nelson is going to Atlanta for a buying trip for the Off The Wall frame shop and will be using a motor home to travel back from there. Hope you have a great time, Dick — are you going to stop in New Orleans and visit Empress Doris at her new funeral parlor? If so, do give her Mike Dooley's love.

It is true that Billy Buns is

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Yes, it is true that Bob Cramer and Bob Paulson have purchased Urban Country Florists and are going to call it Castro Country Flowers . . . so if you need flowers or arrangements, give them a try at 431-1283 . . . good luck, guys.

The winner of the drawing at the Kokpit on Sunday evening for the trip to Hawaii for two was Ed Kimble. It was a fun evening

DICK WALTERS

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disavowed. Carlos, please come through on the next movie. Please! No one else will.

That's not quite true. Zoltan comes through. I left the Bijou in time to catch the 9 p.m. live show at *Savages*, and I finally caught Zoltan's act, which I understand will now be happening every Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Zoltan is definitely San Francisco Chippendale of exhibitionists. He is a body builder who is unabashed by the sexual curiosity — not to mention desire — he ignites. He displays his musculature — which I believe is called "cut" in muscle building parlance — works his penis to erection, then displays body, penis, and soul. Watching Zoltan flex his arms adorned only in a smile and a hard-on moved the usually passive San Francisco audience to cries of "show it!" and

"Beautiful!" If I'd had two hands available, my applause would have been deafening. Alas, irony raised his serpent head again: instead of relieving my overworked reproductive system with the fabulous Zoltan, I waited for *Savages*' second performer, a young clone in chaps that had never seen chaparral. He was long on attitude and short on everything else, and I left before seeing his primary sexual attribute. I advise the management of *Savages* not to waste Zoltan — he is no one's warm-up act.

I have revealed much more about myself than you should know in my masturbatory confessions because I've been reading Robert Gluck's *Elements of a Coffee Service*, and it is so good it made me want to write my own little sex story. ■

R. Bluestein

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 Slow, sensual massage by goodlooking guy with gymnast's body. 75 minutes. \$35 in/\$40 out. High repeats.  
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Shiatsu massage by young Italian Stud. Call Art, 586-1093. Certified. **E31**

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 Handsome, well-muscled stud, hung thick, 6'2", 190 lbs., 29 yrs. Call Angel, 621-8490 in/out. **E27**

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 Local gay business's new advertising campaign looking for interested gay male models. Send photo and vital statistics information to Plexus Publications, 100 Oak Rm Way, Suite 5C, Los Gatos, CA 95030. Previous modeling experience is not required. For more info call (408) 358-1373 **E27**

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6'4", 165#, hot, friendly, safe biker. David, 24 hrs, 665-6456 **E31**

J/O & Exhib. Al 928-5826 **E27**

**BB SUPERSTAR**  
 54c, 20a, 32w, 8" endw, bld, blu, 6', 222 lbs. Bill 863-1523 **E28**

\$50 - hot top, uncut, hung big, rear fr expert. 558-8535 **E27**

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 Handsome Jpn-Haw  
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 Hot Norwegian Man  
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 \$50 OUT CALLS ONLY  
 HUNG, CUT, 24 HRS, S.F.  
 415-673-1251 Jose **E27**

**HOT GLADIATOR**  
 24, First Ad, 6 ft, 185, 29 w Big meat. Must leave number. 75, 550-8615, clean cut, hot **E27**

Hot Black Top 6' 165 9"lc 50in/60 out Alex 864-6587 **E27**

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 a very sensuous, sexy man with baby blue eyes & blond hair 6', 185, vers. & well endowed  
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